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CAPTAIN AMERICA

THE TRIAL OF CAPTAIN AMERICA

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CAPTAIN AMERICA®

WHO WILL WIELD THE SHIELD?

BRUBAKER
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THE STUNNING AFTERMATH OF
CAPTAIN AMERICA
REBORN

CAPTAIN AMERICA

WHO WILL WIELD THE SHIELD?

PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING STORY TAKES PLACE **AFTER** THE EVENTS OF **CAPTAIN AMERICA: REBORN #6! Sorry, Folks!**

In the wake of the superhuman Civil War, Captain America was to be arraigned for his violation of the Superhuman Registration Act...but Steve Rogers never made it to trial. On the steps of the federal courthouse Sharon Carter, Steve's lover, an agent of S.H.I.E.L.D. and unwilling puppet of the Red Skull, assassinated Captain America.

The Red Skull, trapped in a robot body and out for revenge against his greatest nemesis, had set a plan in motion. The gun Carter used, specially designed by renegade Nazi scientist Arnim Zola, severed Rogers' consciousness from his body, seemingly rendering him dead. Carter managed to break free from her conditioning in time to stop the Skull and Zola from carrying out their mysterious plot. As a result of her interference, Steve's consciousness became unhinged in time and he was forced to endure his entire history in an endless loop, unable to truly die.

With the help of Dr. Doom and Norman Osborn, the Red Skull reanimated Rogers' body, but kept Steve locked in his own subconscious. The Skull took over Captain America's body, planning to pose as the resurrected patriot to execute his master plan.

Carter, hoping to right her wrong, sought help from the Mighty Avengers, including James "Bucky" Barnes – Steve's old partner, the former Winter Soldier, and the new Captain America. Together, they discovered the Skull's endgame, and prepared to stop it.

On the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, Barnes and Rogers fought the Red Skull, both inside and out of Steve's body. Ultimately, Rogers won out, forcing the Red Skull from his mind. Before Steve recovered control of his body, though, he saw not only his past...but a glimpse of the future.

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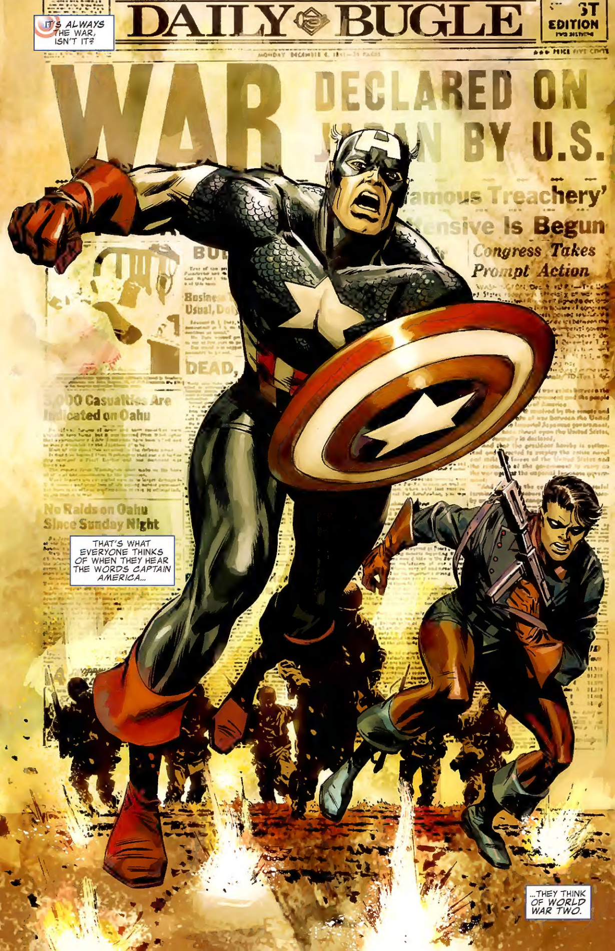
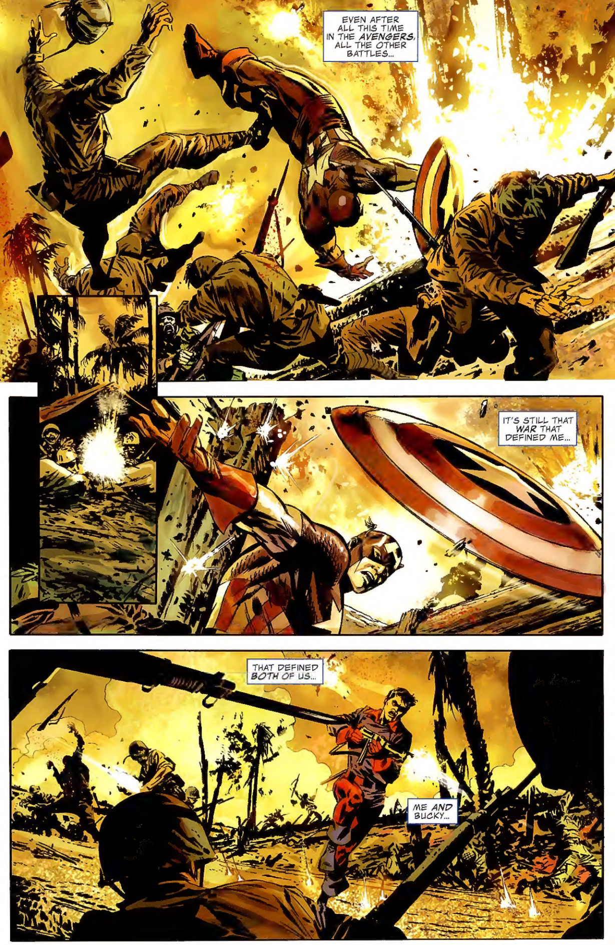
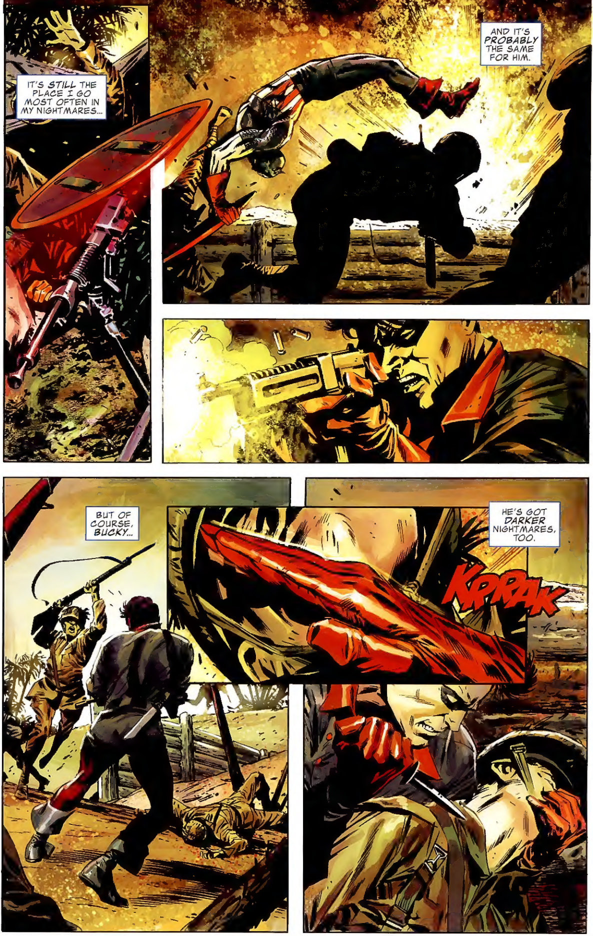
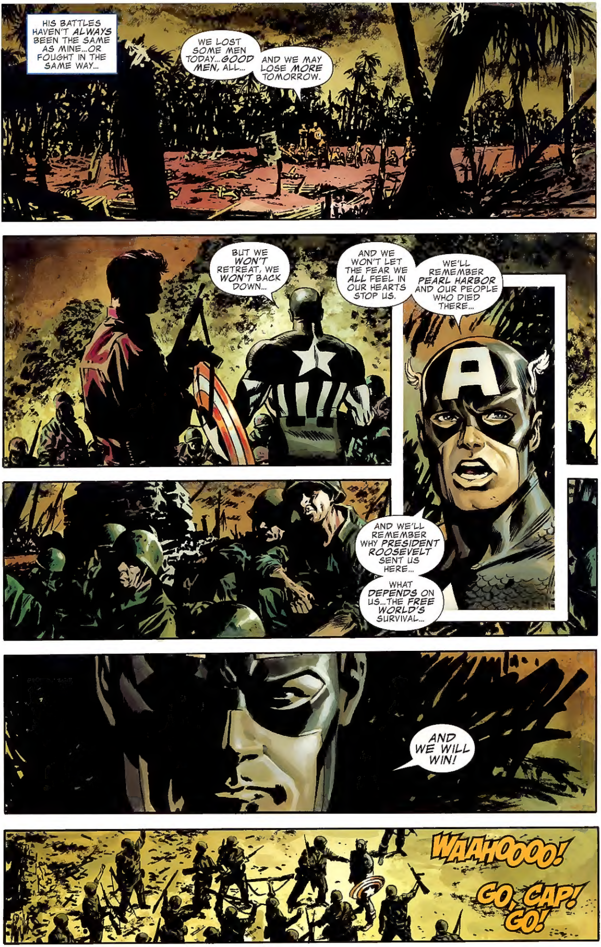
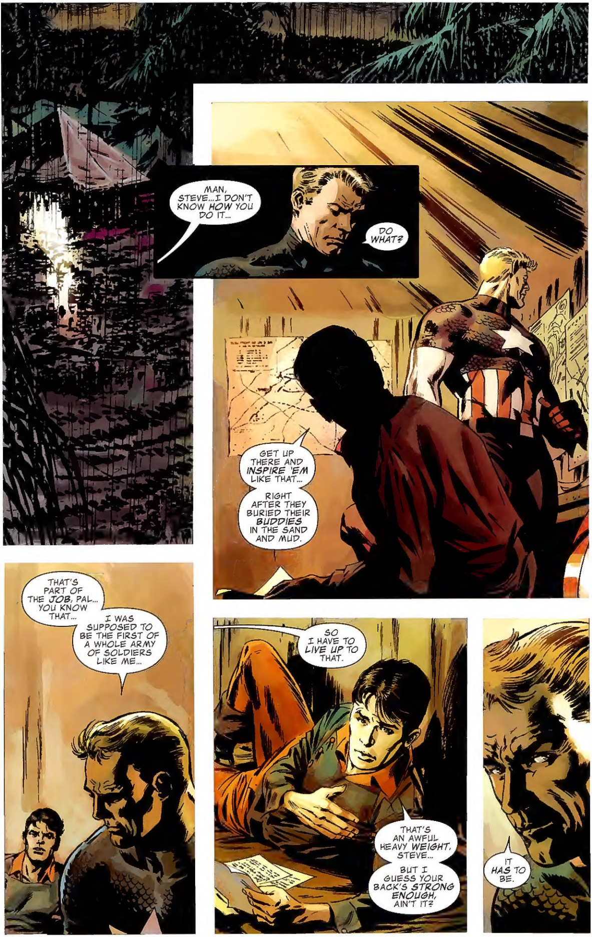
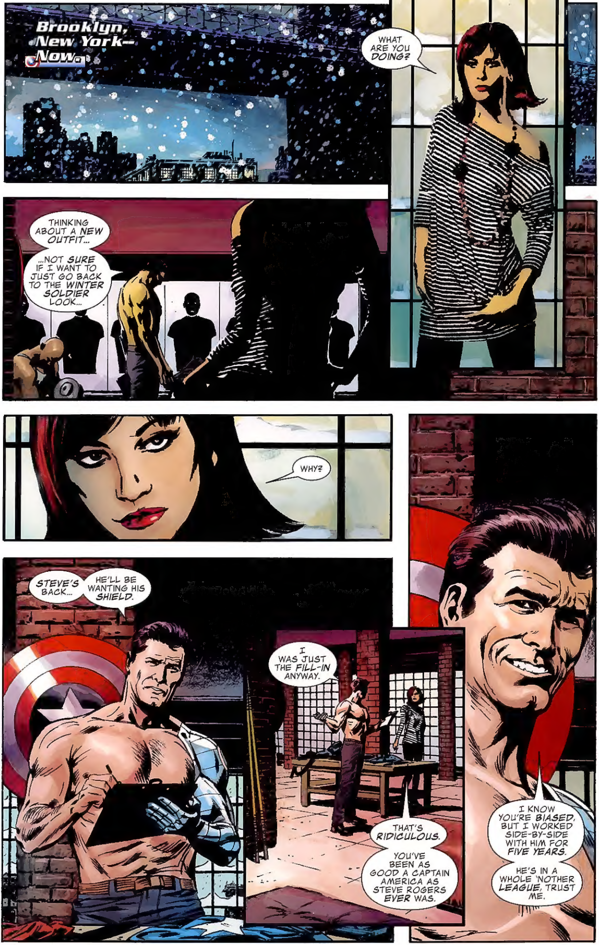

IT'S ALWAYS THE WAR, ISN'T IT?
DAILY BUGLE
EDITION
WAR
DECLARED ON
BY U.S.
Treachery'
Is Begun
Congress Takes Prompt Action
DEAD,
Casualties Are Indicated on Oahu
No Raids on Oahu Since Sunday Night
THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE THINKS OF WHEN THEY HEAR THE WORDS CAPTAIN AMERICA...
...THEY THINK OF WORLD WAR TWO.

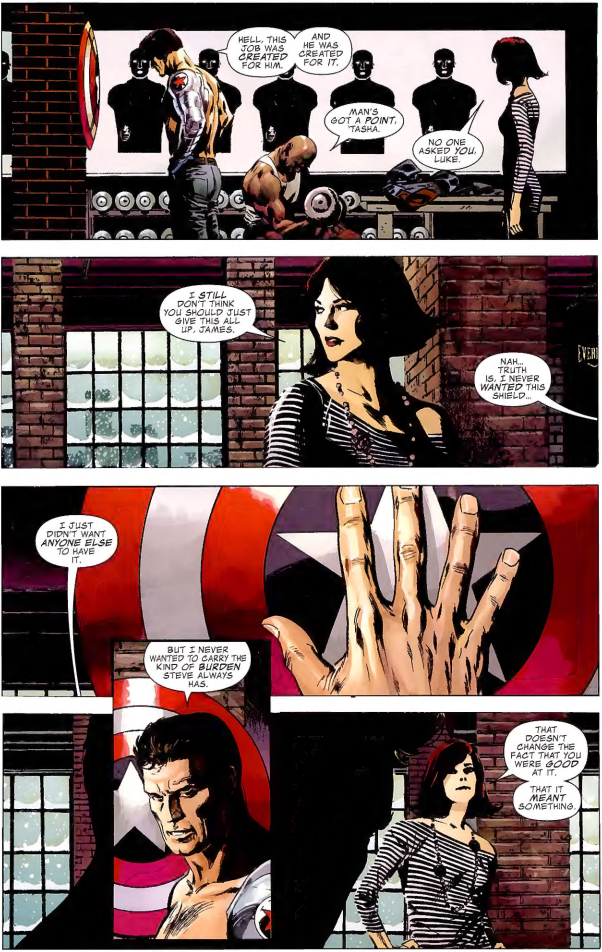

EVEN AFTER ALL THIS TIME IN THE *AVENGERS*, ALL THE OTHER BATTLES...
IT'S STILL THAT **WAR** THAT DEFINED ME...
THAT DEFINED *BOTH* OF US...
ME *AND* BUCKY...

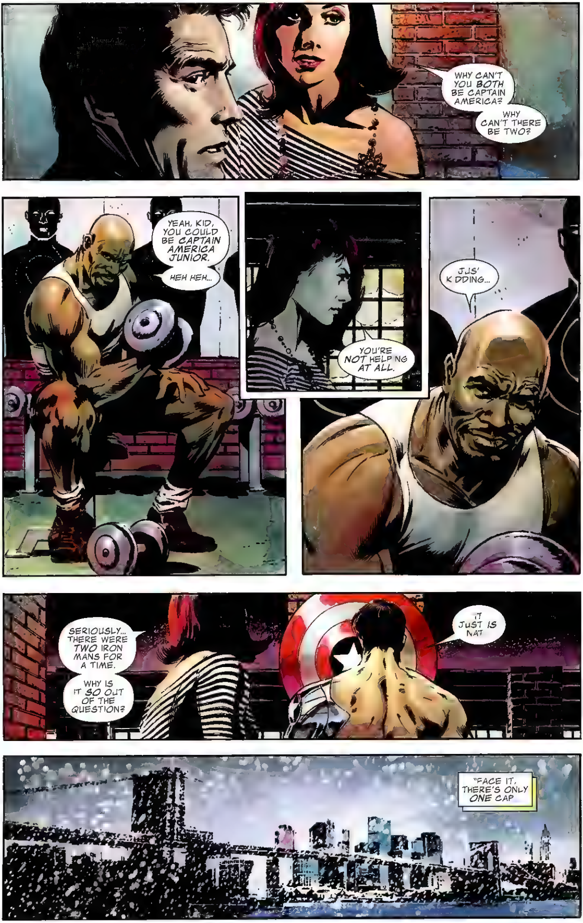

IT'S *STILL* THE PLACE I GO MOST OFTEN IN MY NIGHTMARES...
AND IT'S *PROBABLY* THE SAME FOR HIM.
BUT OF COURSE, *BUCKY*...
HE'S GOT *DARKER* NIGHTMARES, TOO.
KRRAK

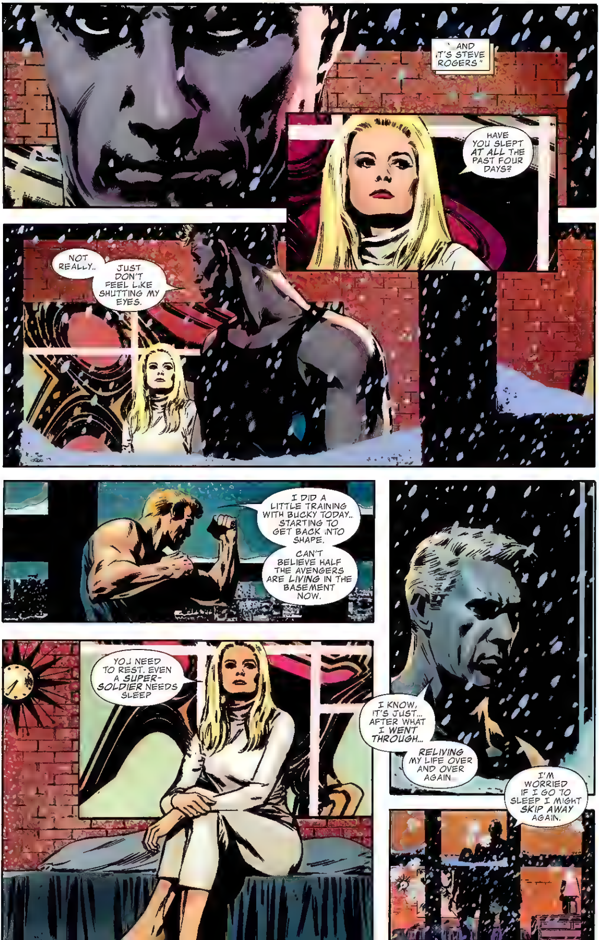

HIS BATTLES HAVEN'T *ALWAYS* BEEN THE SAME AS MINE...OR FOUGHT IN THE SAME WAY...
WE LOST SOME MEN TODAY...*GOOD MEN,* ALL...
AND WE MAY LOSE *MORE* TOMORROW.
BUT WE *WON'T* RETREAT, WE *WON'T* BACK DOWN...
AND WE WON'T LET THE FEAR WE *ALL* FEEL IN OUR HEARTS STOP US.
WE'LL REMEMBER *PEARL HARBOR* AND OUR PEOPLE WHO DIED THERE...
AND WE'LL REMEMBER WHY *PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT* SENT US HERE...
WHAT *DEPENDS* ON US...THE *FREE WORLD'S* SURVIVAL...
AND WE WILL WIN!
WAAHOOOO!
GO, CAP! GO!

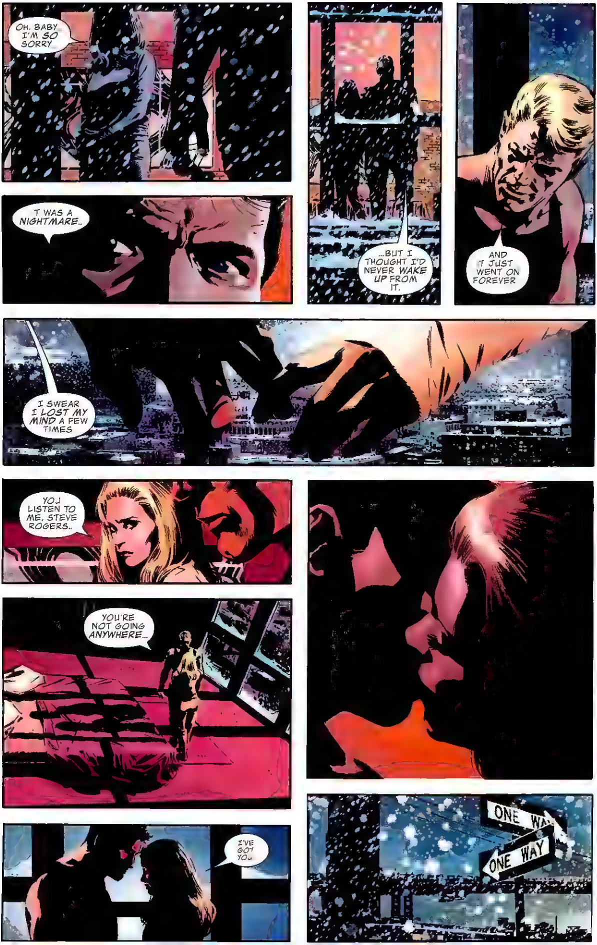

MAN, STEVE...I DON'T KNOW *HOW* YOU DO IT...
DO WHAT?
GET UP THERE AND *INSPIRE 'EM* LIKE THAT...
RIGHT AFTER THEY BURIED THEIR *BUDDIES* IN THE SAND AND MUD.
THAT'S PART OF THE *JOB*, PAL... YOU KNOW THAT...
I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE FIRST OF A WHOLE ARMY OF SOLDIERS LIKE ME...
SO I HAVE TO *LIVE UP* TO THAT.
THAT'S AN AWFUL HEAVY *WEIGHT*, STEVE...
BUT I GUESS YOUR BACK'S *STRONG ENOUGH*, AIN'T IT?
IT *HAS* TO BE.

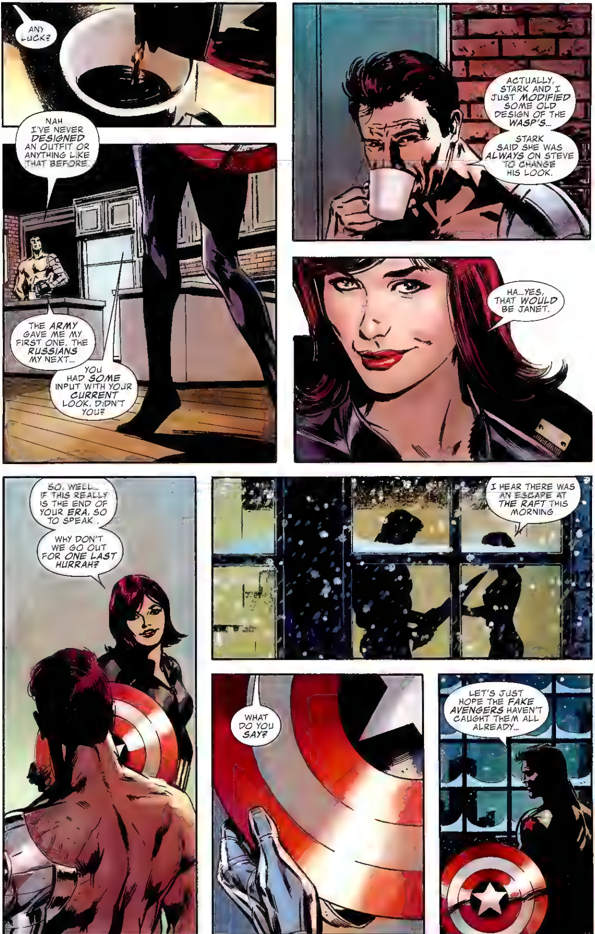

Brooklyn, New York-- Now.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THINKING ABOUT A NEW OUTFIT...
...NOT SURE IF I WANT TO JUST GO BACK TO THE WINTER SOLDIER LOOK...
WHY?
STEVE'S BACK...
HE'LL BE WANTING HIS SHIELD.
I WAS JUST THE FILL-IN ANYWAY.
THAT'S RIDICULOUS.
YOU'VE BEEN AS GOOD A CAPTAIN AMERICA AS STEVE ROGERS EVER WAS.
I KNOW YOU'RE BIASED, BUT I WORKED SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH HIM FOR FIVE YEARS.
HE'S IN A WHOLE 'NOTHER LEAGUE, TRUST ME.

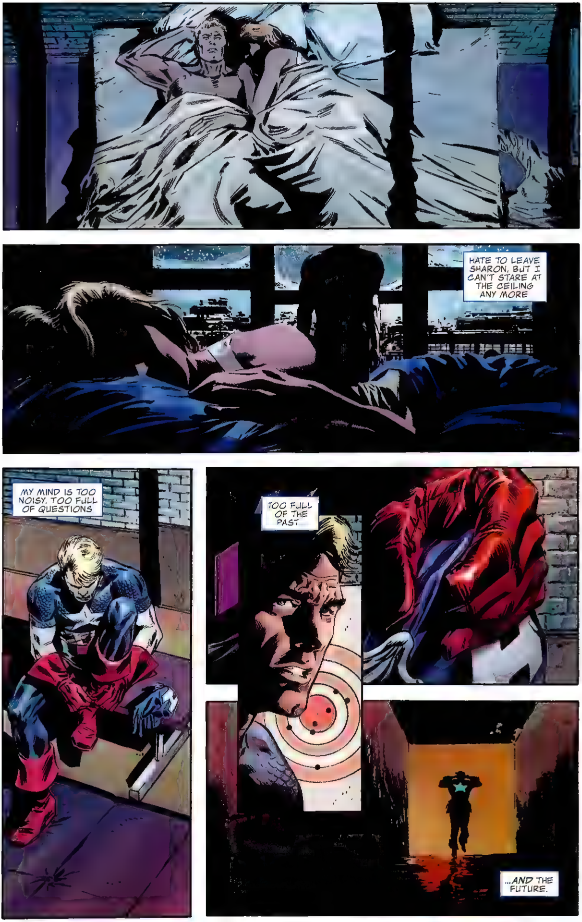

HELL, THIS JOB WAS *CREATED* FOR HIM.
AND HE WAS CREATED FOR *IT*.
MAN'S GOT A *POINT*, 'TASHA.
NO ONE ASKED *YOU*, LUKE.
I *STILL* DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD JUST GIVE THIS ALL UP, JAMES.
NAH... TRUTH IS, I NEVER *WANTED* THIS SHIELD...
I JUST DIDN'T WANT *ANYONE ELSE* TO HAVE IT.
BUT I NEVER WANTED TO CARRY THE KIND OF *BURDEN* STEVE ALWAYS HAS.
THAT *DOESN'T* CHANGE THE FACT THAT YOU WERE *GOOD* AT IT.
THAT IT *MEANT* SOMETHING.

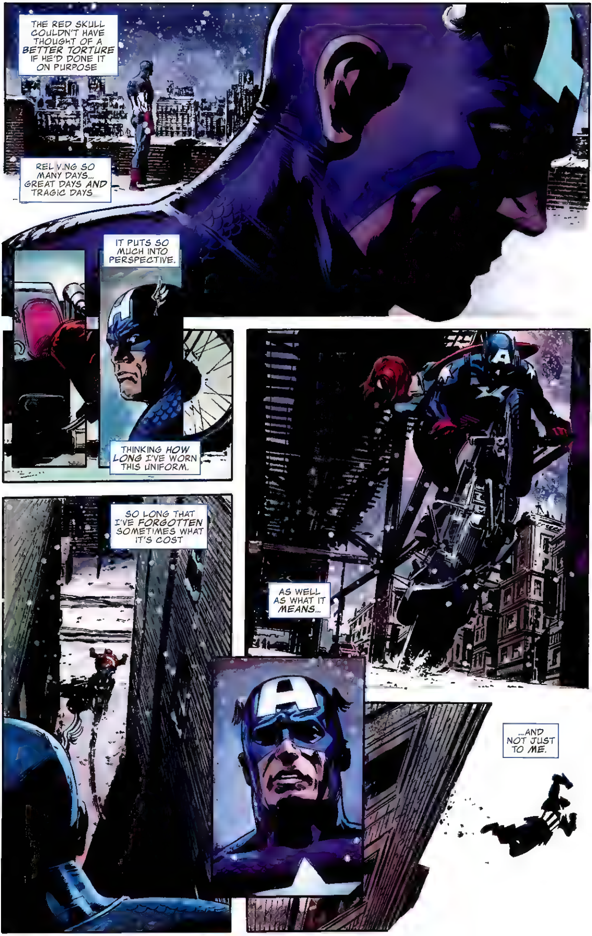

WHY CAN'T YOU BOTH BE CAPTAIN AMERICA?
WHY CAN'T THERE BE TWO?
YEAH, KID, YOU COULD BE CAPTAIN AMERICA JUNIOR.
HEH HEH...
YOU'RE NOT HELPING AT ALL.
JUS' KIDDING...
SERIOUSLY... THERE WERE TWO IRON MANS FOR A TIME.
WHY IS IT SO OUT OF THE QUESTION?
IT JUST IS NAT
"FACE IT, THERE'S ONLY ONE CAP.

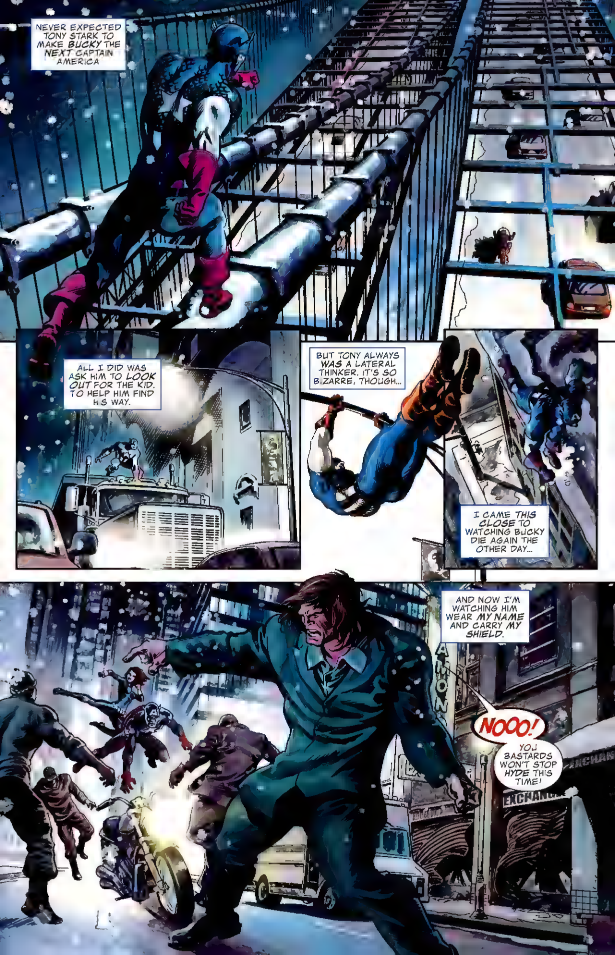

"...AND IT'S STEVE ROGERS."
HAVE YOU SLEPT *AT ALL* THE PAST FOUR DAYS?
NOT REALLY..
JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE SHUTTING MY EYES.
I DID A LITTLE TRAINING WITH BUCKY TODAY.. STARTING TO GET BACK INTO SHAPE.
CAN'T BELIEVE HALF THE AVENGERS ARE *LIVING* IN THE BASEMENT NOW.
YOU NEED TO REST. EVEN A *SUPER-SOLDIER* NEEDS SLEEP
I KNOW, IT'S JUST... AFTER WHAT *I WENT THROUGH*...
RELIVING MY LIFE OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
I'M WORRIED IF I GO TO SLEEP I MIGHT *SKIP AWAY* AGAIN.

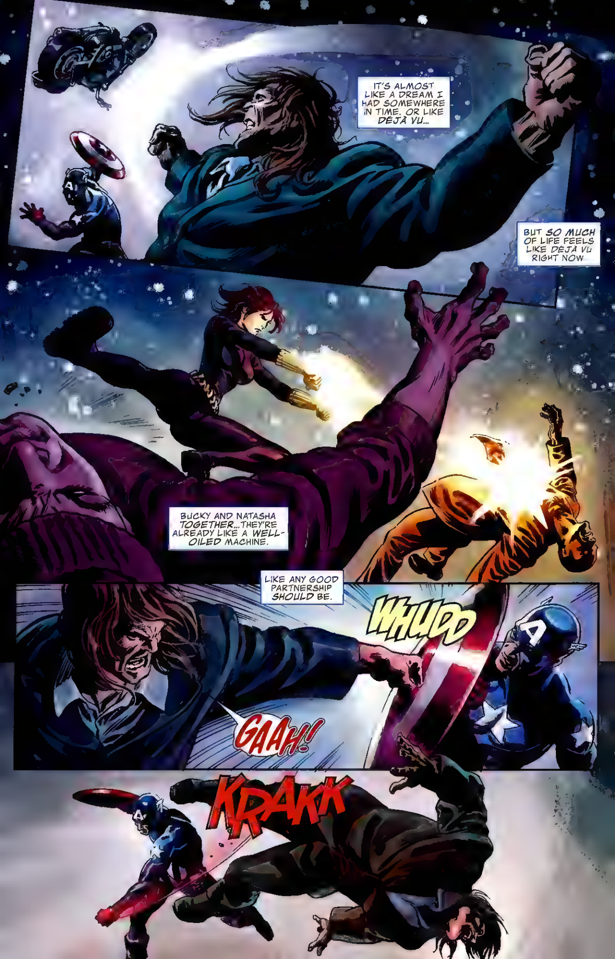

OH, BABY I'M SO SORRY
IT WAS A NIGHTMARE..
...BUT I THOUGHT I'D NEVER WAKE UP FROM IT.
AND IT JUST WENT ON FOREVER
I SWEAR I LOST MY MIND A FEW TIMES
YOU LISTEN TO ME, STEVE ROGERS..
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE..
I'VE GOT YOU..
ONE WAY
ONE WAY

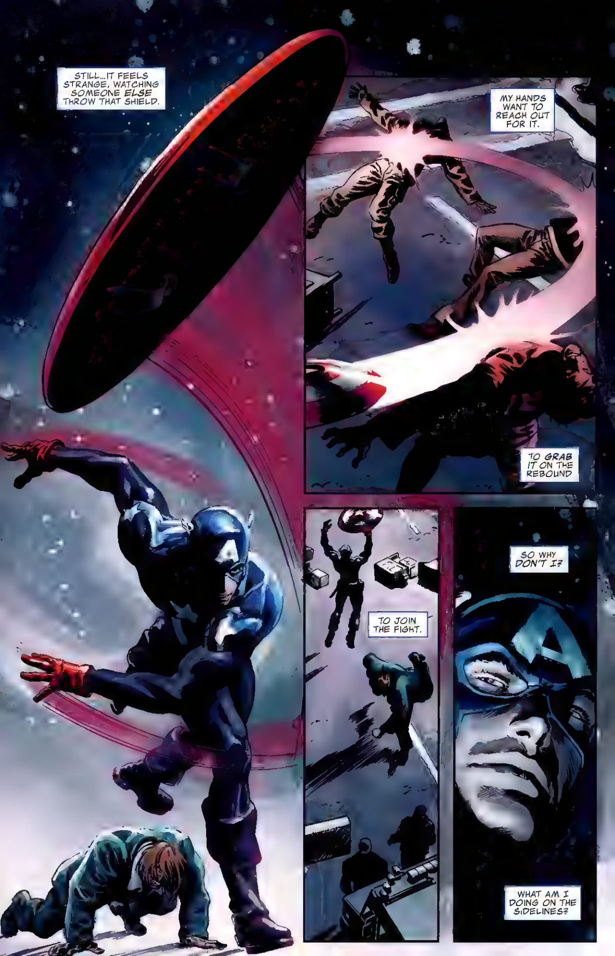

ANY LUCK?
NAH I'VE NEVER DESIGNED AN OUTFIT OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE.
THE ARMY GAVE ME MY FIRST ONE. THE RUSSIANS MY NEXT...
YOU HAD SOME INPUT WITH YOUR CURRENT LOOK, DIDN'T YOU?
ACTUALLY, STARK AND I JUST MODIFIED SOME OLD DESIGN OF THE WASP'S...
STARK SAID SHE WAS ALWAYS ON STEVE TO CHANGE HIS LOOK.
HA...YES, THAT WOULD BE JANET.
SO, WELL... IF THIS REALLY IS THE END OF YOUR ERA, SO TO SPEAK.
WHY DON'T WE GO OUT FOR ONE LAST HURRAH?
I HEAR THERE WAS AN ESCAPE AT THE RAFT THIS MORNING
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
LET'S JUST HOPE THE FAKE AVENGERS HAVEN'T CAUGHT THEM ALL ALREADY...

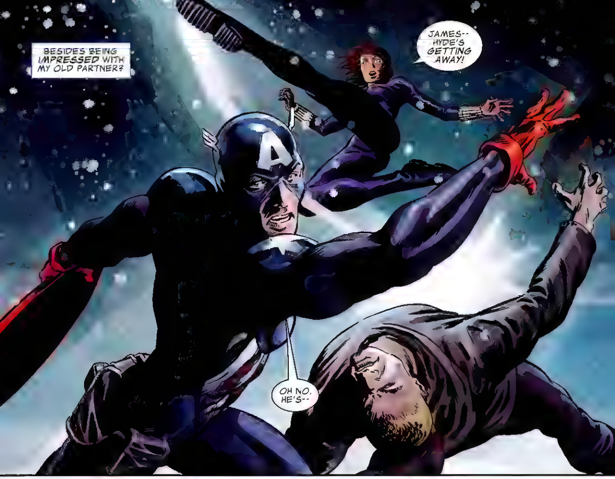

HATE TO LEAVE SHARON, BUT I CAN'T STARE AT THE CEILING ANY MORE
MY MIND IS TOO NOISY. TOO FULL OF QUESTIONS
TOO FULL OF THE PAST
...AND THE FUTURE.

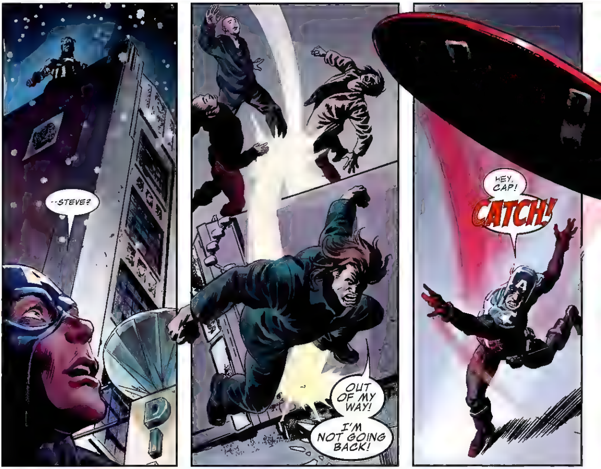

THE RED SKULL COULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT OF A *BETTER TORTURE* IF HE'D DONE IT ON PURPOSE
RELIVING SO MANY DAYS... GREAT DAYS *AND* TRAGIC DAYS
IT PUTS SO MUCH INTO PERSPECTIVE.
THINKING *HOW LONG* I'VE WORN THIS UNIFORM.
SO LONG THAT I'VE *FORGOTTEN* SOMETIMES WHAT IT'S COST
AS WELL AS WHAT IT *MEANS*...
...AND NOT JUST TO *ME*.

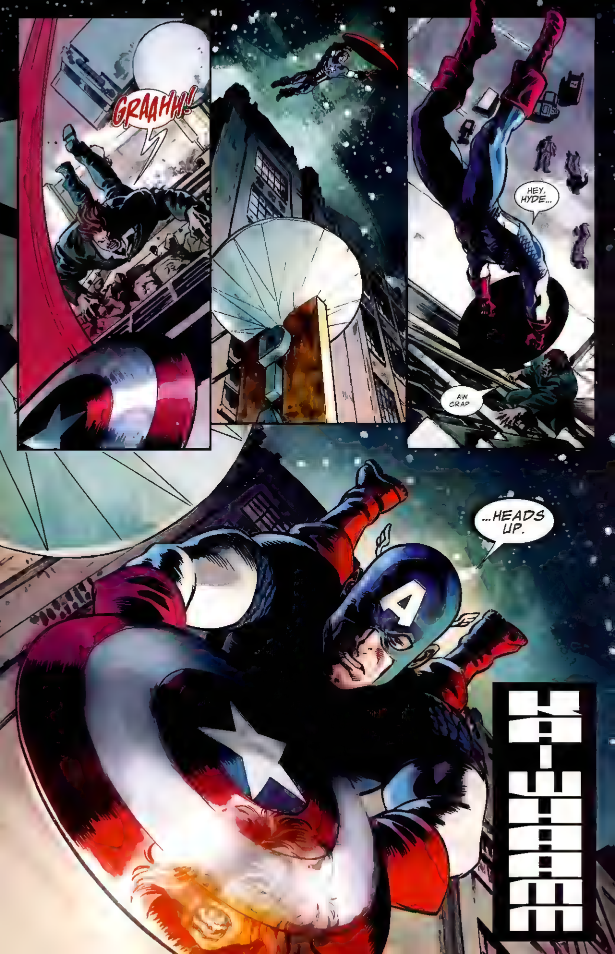

NEVER EXPECTED TONY STARK TO MAKE *BUCKY* THE *NEXT* CAPTAIN AMERICA
ALL I DID WAS ASK HIM TO *LOOK OUT* FOR THE KID. TO HELP HIM FIND HIS WAY.
BUT TONY ALWAYS *WAS* A LATERAL THINKER. IT'S SO BIZARRE, THOUGH...
I CAME THIS *CLOSE* TO WATCHING BUCKY DIE AGAIN THE OTHER DAY...
AND NOW I'M WATCHING HIM WEAR *MY NAME* AND CARRY *MY SHIELD*.
NOOO!
YOU BASTARDS WON'T STOP *HYDE* THIS TIME!

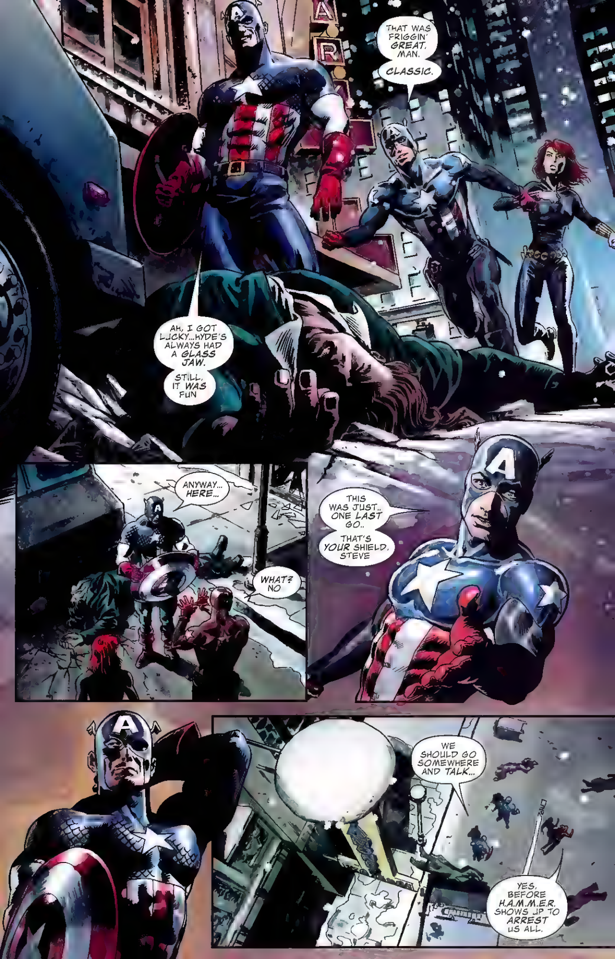

IT'S ALMOST LIKE A DREAM I HAD SOMEWHERE IN TIME. OR LIKE DÉJÀ VU...
BUT SO MUCH OF LIFE FEELS LIKE DÉJÀ VU RIGHT NOW
BUCKY AND NATASHA TOGETHER...THEY'RE ALREADY LIKE A WELL-OILED MACHINE.
LIKE ANY GOOD PARTNERSHIP SHOULD BE.
WHUDD
GAAH!
KRAKK

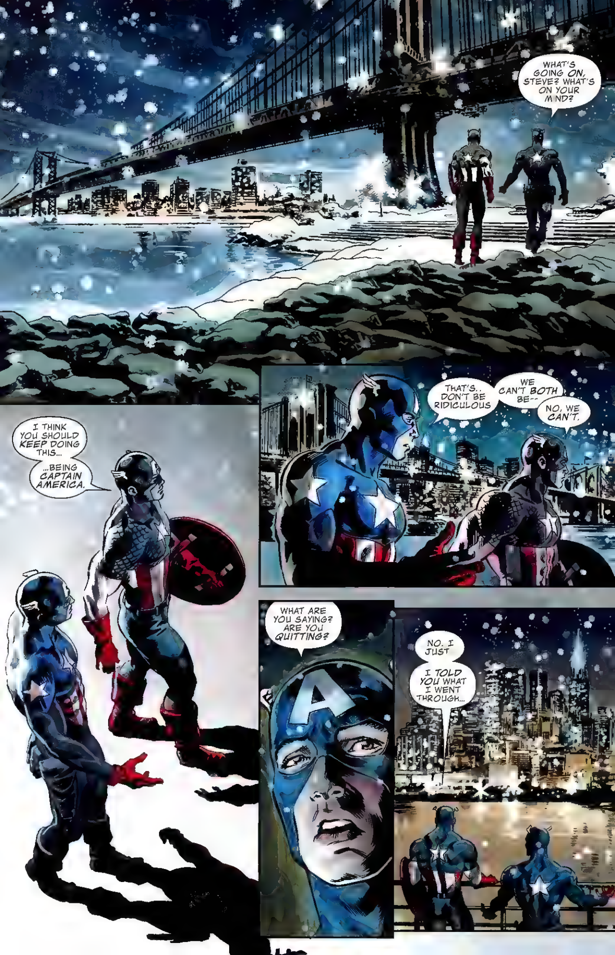

STILL...IT FEELS STRANGE, WATCHING SOMEONE *ELSE* THROW THAT SHIELD.
MY HANDS WANT TO REACH OUT FOR IT.
TO *GRAB* IT ON THE REBOUND
TO JOIN THE FIGHT.
SO WHY DON'T I?
WHAT AM I DOING ON THE SIDELINES?

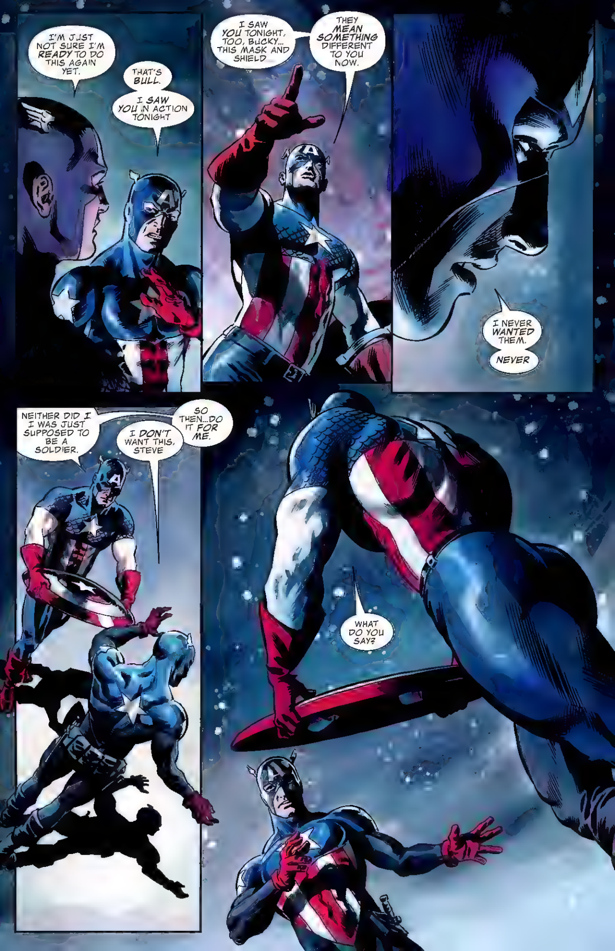

BESIDES BEING *IMPRESSED* WITH MY OLD PARTNER?
JAMES-- HYDE'S GETTING AWAY!
OH NO. HE'S--

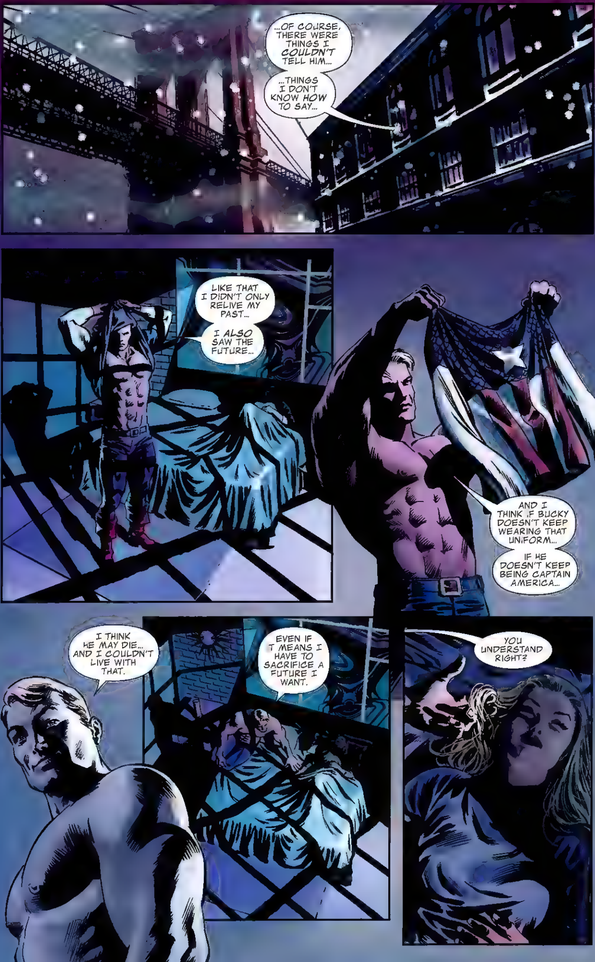

--STEVE?
OUT OF MY WAY!
I'M NOT GOING BACK!
HEY, CAP!
CATCH!

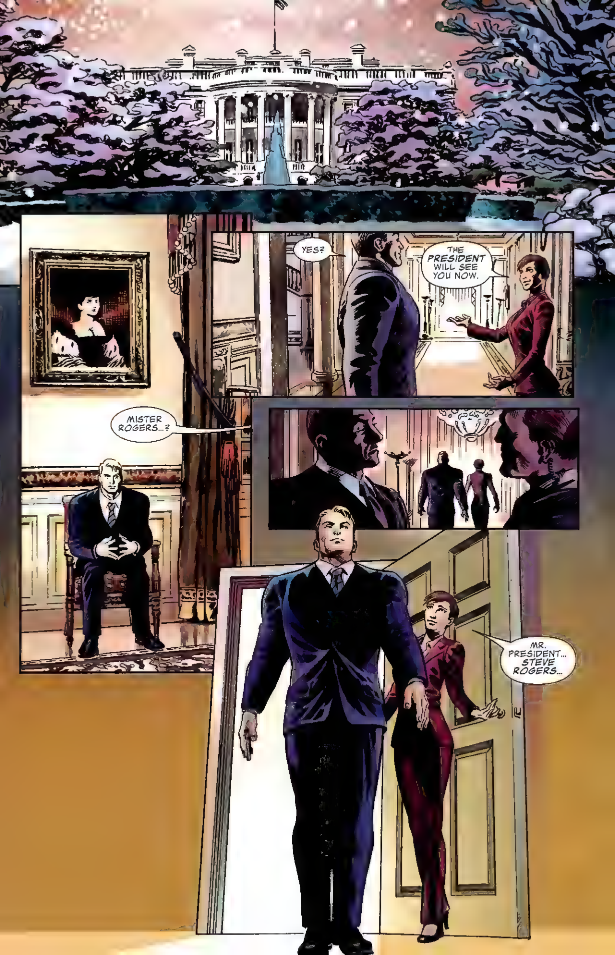

GRAAHH!
HEY, HYDE...
AW CRAP
...HEADS UP.
KA-WHAAMM

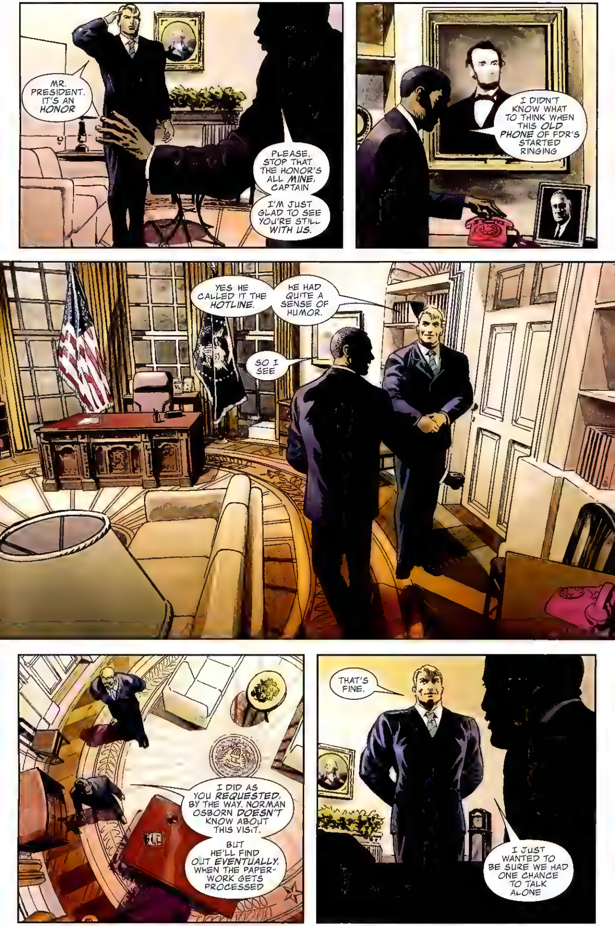

THAT WAS FRIGGIN' *GREAT*, MAN.
CLASSIC.
AH, I GOT LUCKY...HYDE'S ALWAYS HAD A *GLASS JAW.*
STILL, IT *WAS* FUN
ANYWAY... *HERE...*
WHAT? NO
THIS WAS JUST.. ONE *LAST* GO..
THAT'S *YOUR* SHIELD, STEVE
WE SHOULD GO SOMEWHERE AND *TALK...*
YES. BEFORE *H.A.M.M.E.R.* SHOWS UP TO *ARREST* US ALL.

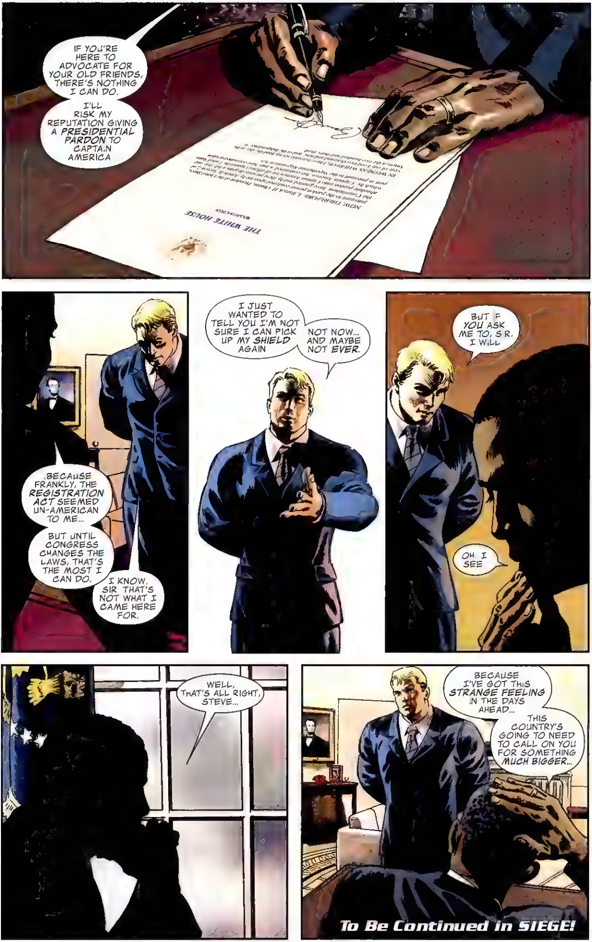

WHAT'S GOING ON, STEVE? WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
I THINK YOU SHOULD *KEEP* DOING THIS...
...BEING *CAPTAIN AMERICA.*
THAT'S.. DON'T BE RIDICULOUS
WE CAN'T *BOTH* BE--
NO, WE *CAN'T.*
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? ARE YOU *QUITTING?*
NO. I JUST
I *TOLD* YOU WHAT I WENT THROUGH...


I'M JUST NOT SURE I'M *READY* TO DO THIS AGAIN YET.
THAT'S *BULL.*
I *SAW YOU* IN ACTION TONIGHT.
I SAW *YOU* TONIGHT, TOO, BUCKY... THIS MASK AND SHIELD
THEY *MEAN SOMETHING* DIFFERENT TO YOU NOW.
I NEVER *WANTED* THEM.
NEVER.
NEITHER DID *I.* I WAS JUST SUPPOSED TO BE A SOLDIER.
I *DON'T* WANT THIS, STEVE.
SO THEN...DO IT *FOR ME.*
WHAT DO YOU SAY?


...OF COURSE, THERE WERE THINGS I *COULDN'T* TELL HIM...
...THINGS I DON'T KNOW *HOW* TO SAY...
LIKE THAT I DIDN'T ONLY RELIVE MY PAST...
I *ALSO* SAW THE FUTURE...
AND I THINK IF BUCKY DOESN'T KEEP WEARING THAT UNIFORM...
IF HE DOESN'T KEEP BEING CAPTAIN AMERICA...
I THINK HE MAY DIE... AND I COULDN'T LIVE WITH THAT.
EVEN IF IT MEANS I HAVE TO SACRIFICE A FUTURE I WANT.
YOU UNDERSTAND RIGHT?


YES?
THE PRESIDENT WILL SEE YOU NOW.
MISTER ROGERS...?
MR. PRESIDENT... STEVE ROGERS...


MR. PRESIDENT. IT'S AN *HONOR*
PLEASE, STOP THAT. THE HONOR'S ALL *MINE*, CAPTAIN.
I'M JUST GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE STILL *WITH US*.
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK WHEN THIS *OLD PHONE* OF FDR'S STARTED RINGING.
YES. HE CALLED IT THE *HOTLINE*.
HE HAD QUITE A SENSE OF HUMOR.
SO I SEE.
I DID AS YOU *REQUESTED*, BY THE WAY. NORMAN OSBORN *DOESN'T* KNOW ABOUT THIS VISIT.
BUT HE'LL FIND OUT *EVENTUALLY*, WHEN THE PAPERWORK GETS PROCESSED.
THAT'S FINE.
I JUST WANTED TO BE SURE WE HAD ONE CHANCE TO TALK ALONE.


IF YOU'RE HERE TO ADVOCATE FOR YOUR OLD FRIENDS, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.
I'LL RISK MY REPUTATION GIVING A *PRESIDENTIAL PARDON* TO CAPTAIN AMERICA
THE WHITE HOUSE
...BECAUSE FRANKLY, THE *REGISTRATION ACT* SEEMED UN-AMERICAN TO ME...
BUT UNTIL CONGRESS CHANGES THE LAWS, THAT'S THE MOST I CAN DO.
I KNOW, SIR. THAT'S NOT WHAT I CAME HERE FOR.
I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU I'M NOT SURE I CAN PICK UP MY *SHIELD* AGAIN.
NOT NOW... AND MAYBE NOT *EVER.*
BUT IF *YOU* ASK ME TO, SIR, I WILL.
OH. I SEE.
WELL, THAT'S ALL RIGHT, STEVE...
BECAUSE I'VE GOT THIS *STRANGE FEELING* IN THE DAYS AHEAD...
THIS COUNTRY'S GOING TO NEED TO CALL ON YOU FOR SOMETHING *MUCH BIGGER...*
To Be Continued in SIEGE!

CAPTAIN AMERICA

MARVEL
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SECOND FEATURE
STARTING THIS ISSUE:
NOMAD

BRUBAKER
ROSS
GUICE
WHITE

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CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the man who was Captain America, Cap's former partner during World War II, James "Bucky" Barnes, has taken on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

During the 1950s, while the original Cap was in suspended animation, another Captain America was created. While a nearly perfect physical match for Steve Rogers, this new Cap became severely mentally unstable and eventually had to be taken down.

Recently, Bucky clashed with a newly revived, but still deranged, 1950s Captain America who then escaped. No one has seen him since.

TWO AMERICAS Part 1

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Captain America created by Joe Simon and Jack Kirby

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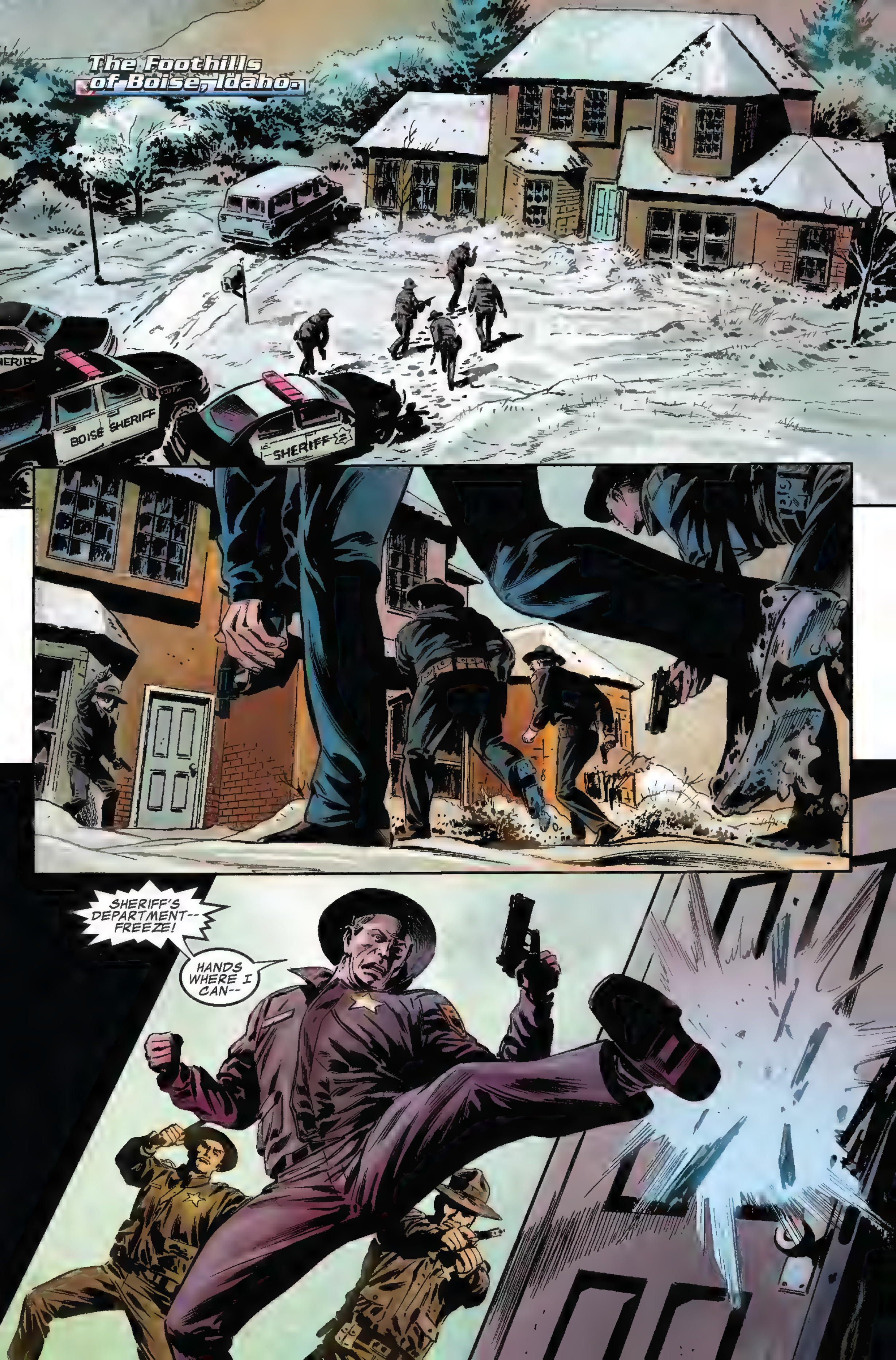
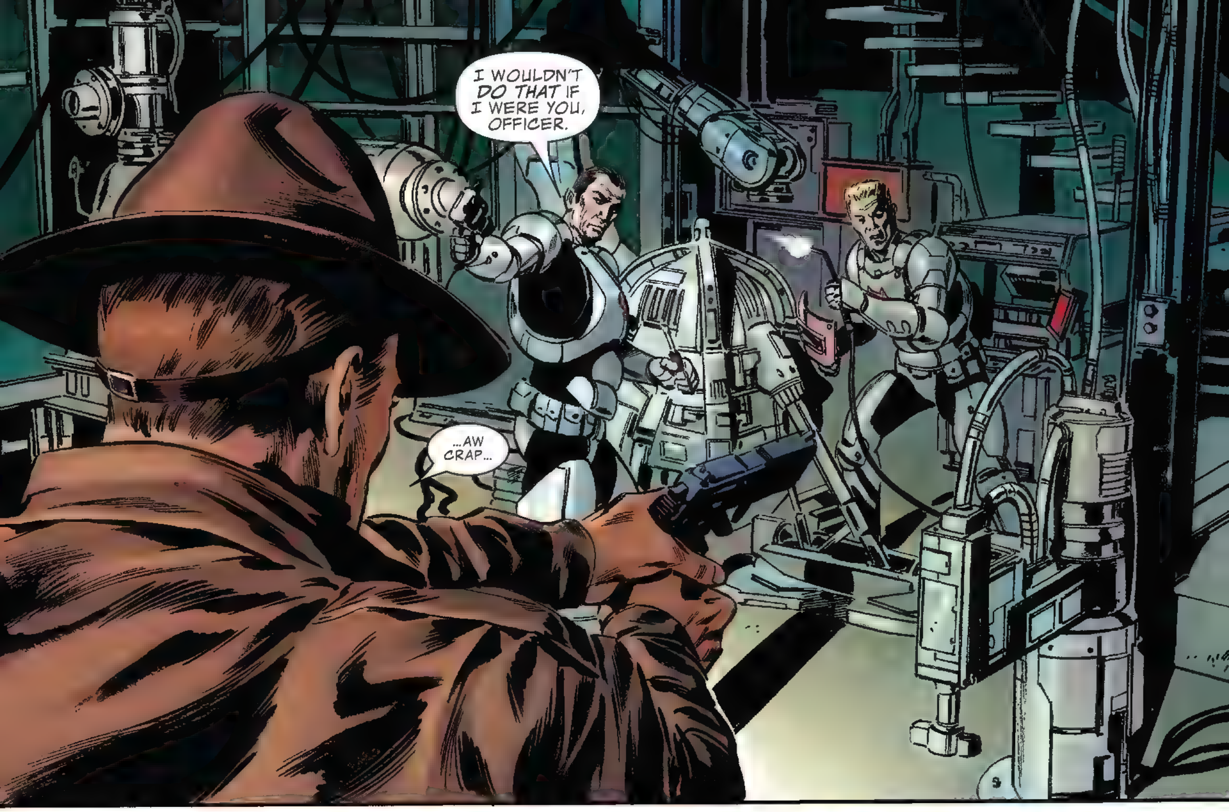
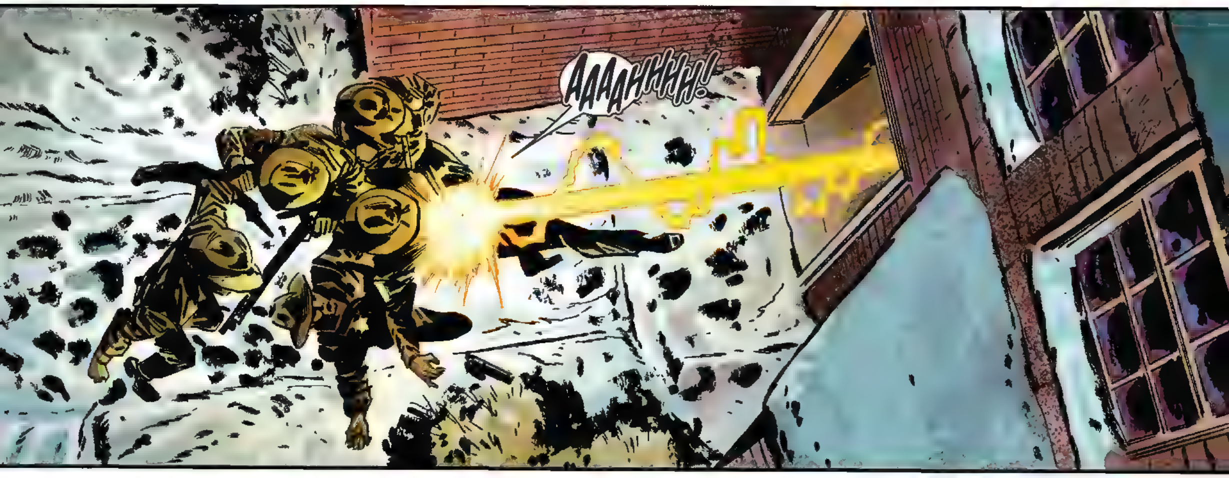
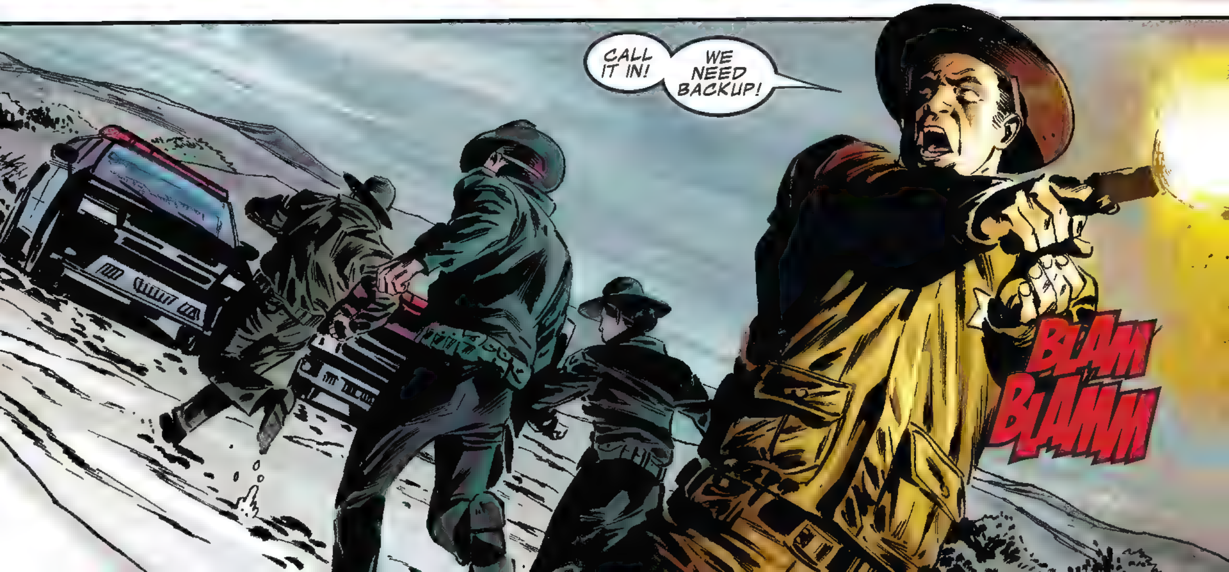
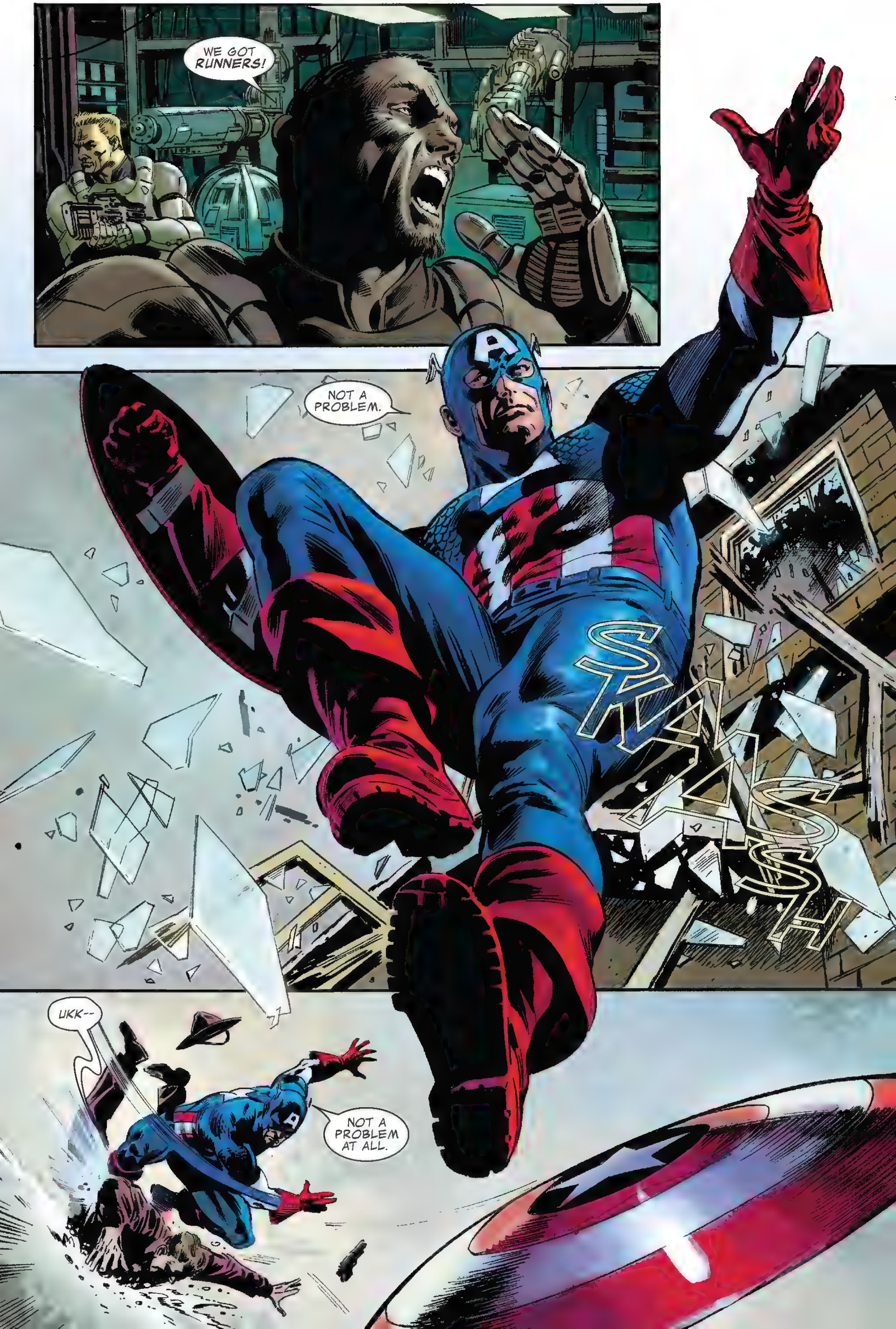
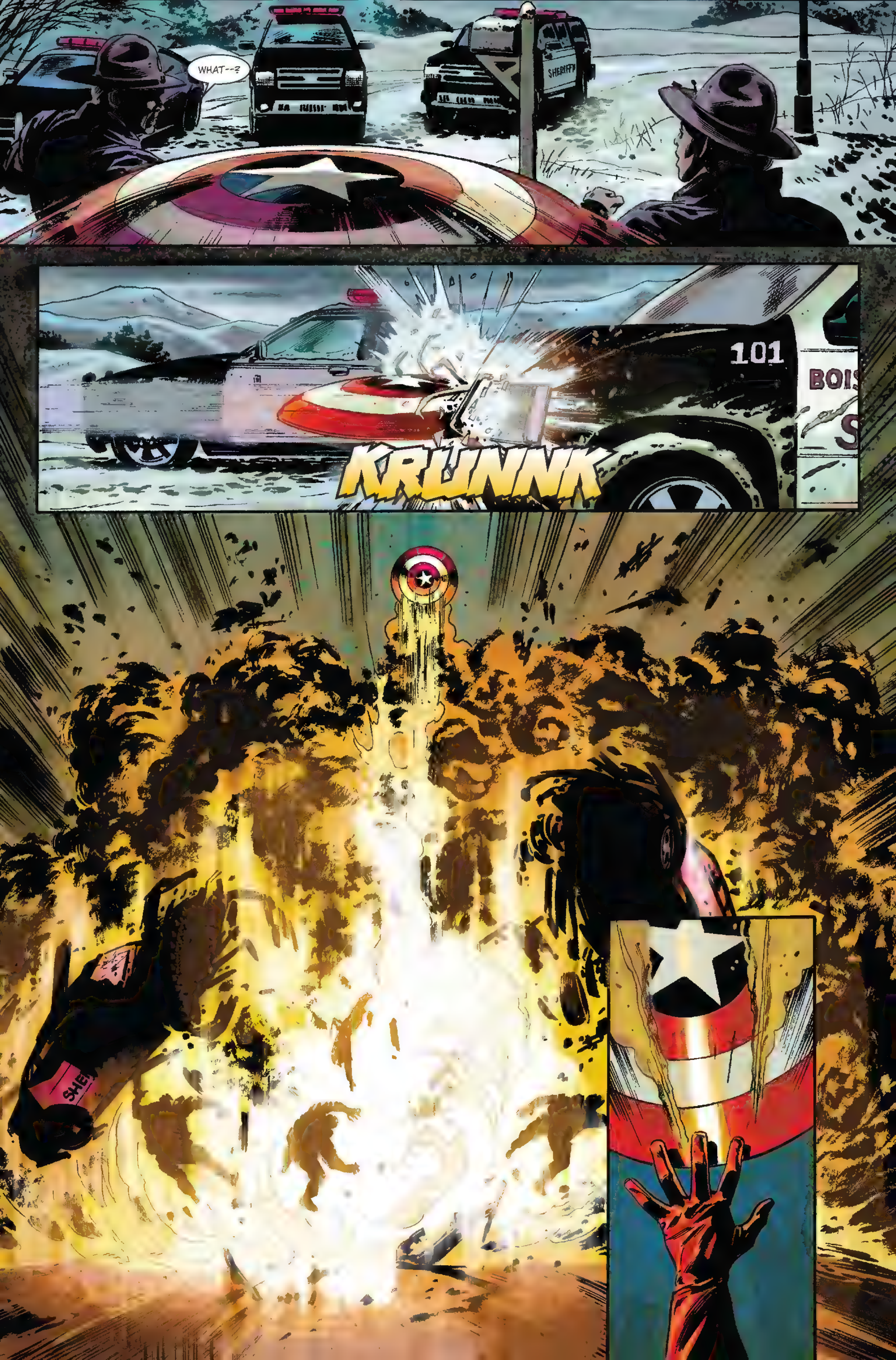

The Foothills of Boise, Idaho.
BOISE SHERIFF
SHERIFF
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT-- FREEZE!
HANDS WHERE I CAN--

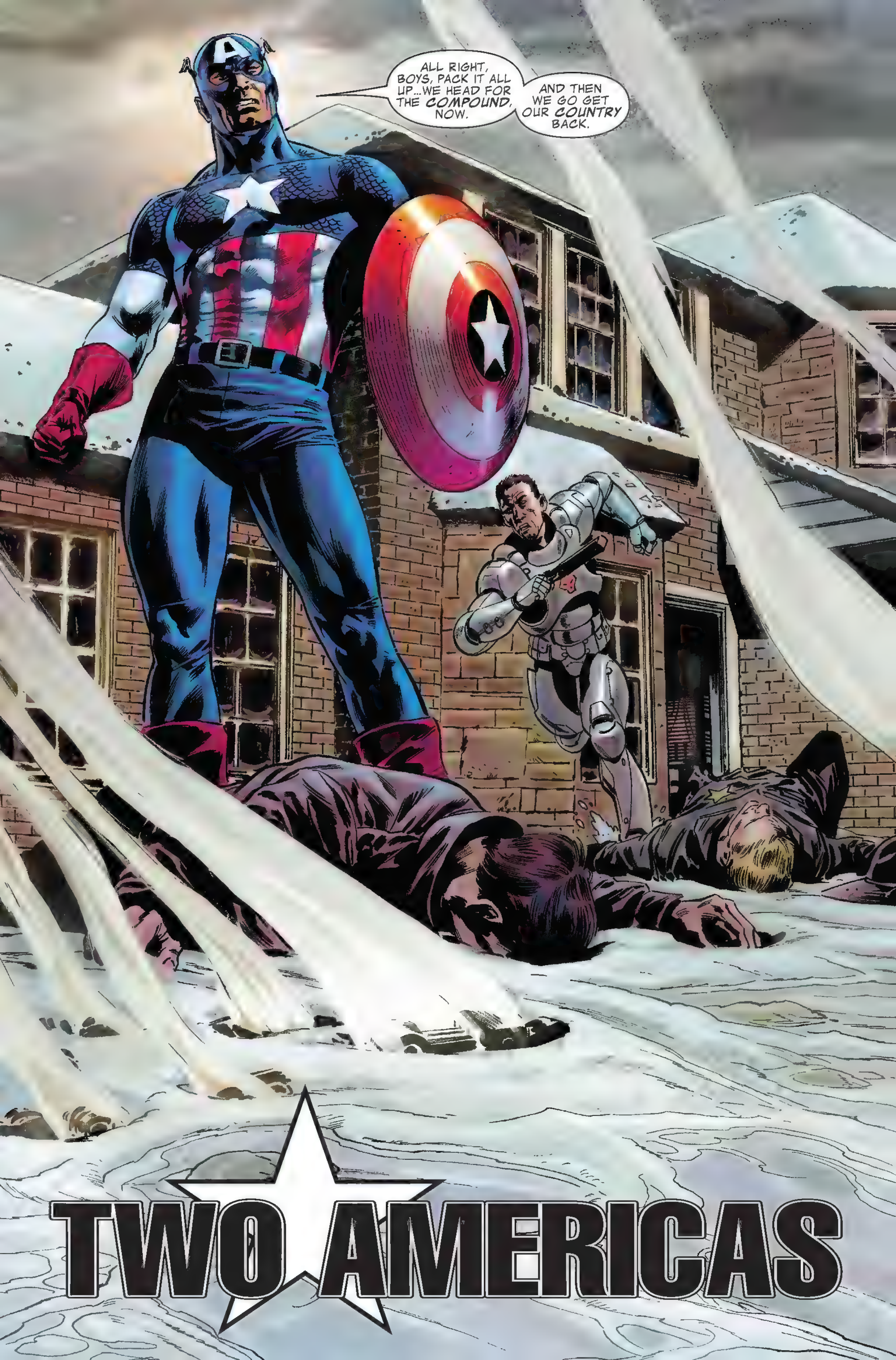

I WOULDN'T DO THAT IF I WERE YOU, OFFICER.
...AW CRAP...

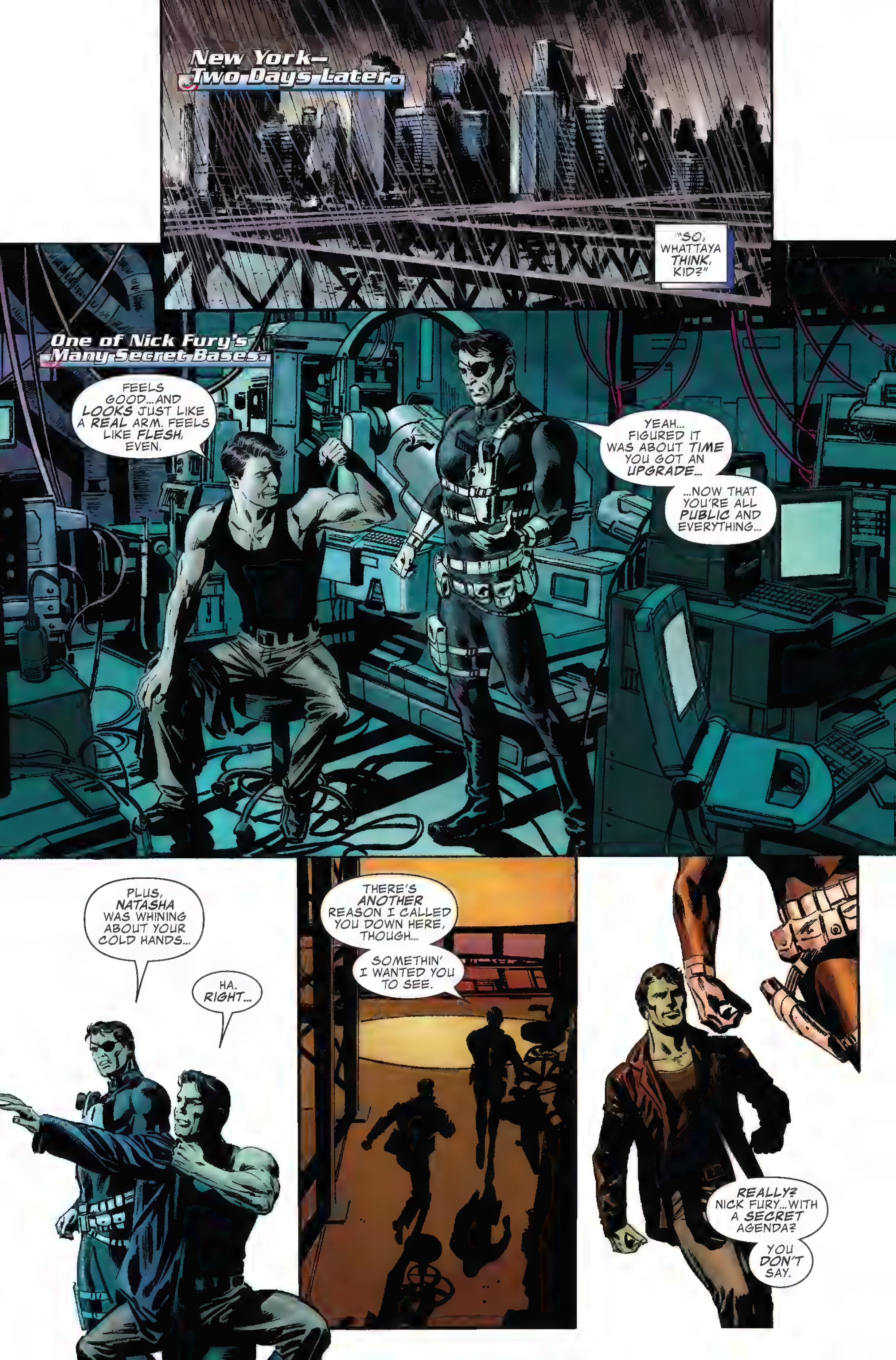

AAAAHHHH!

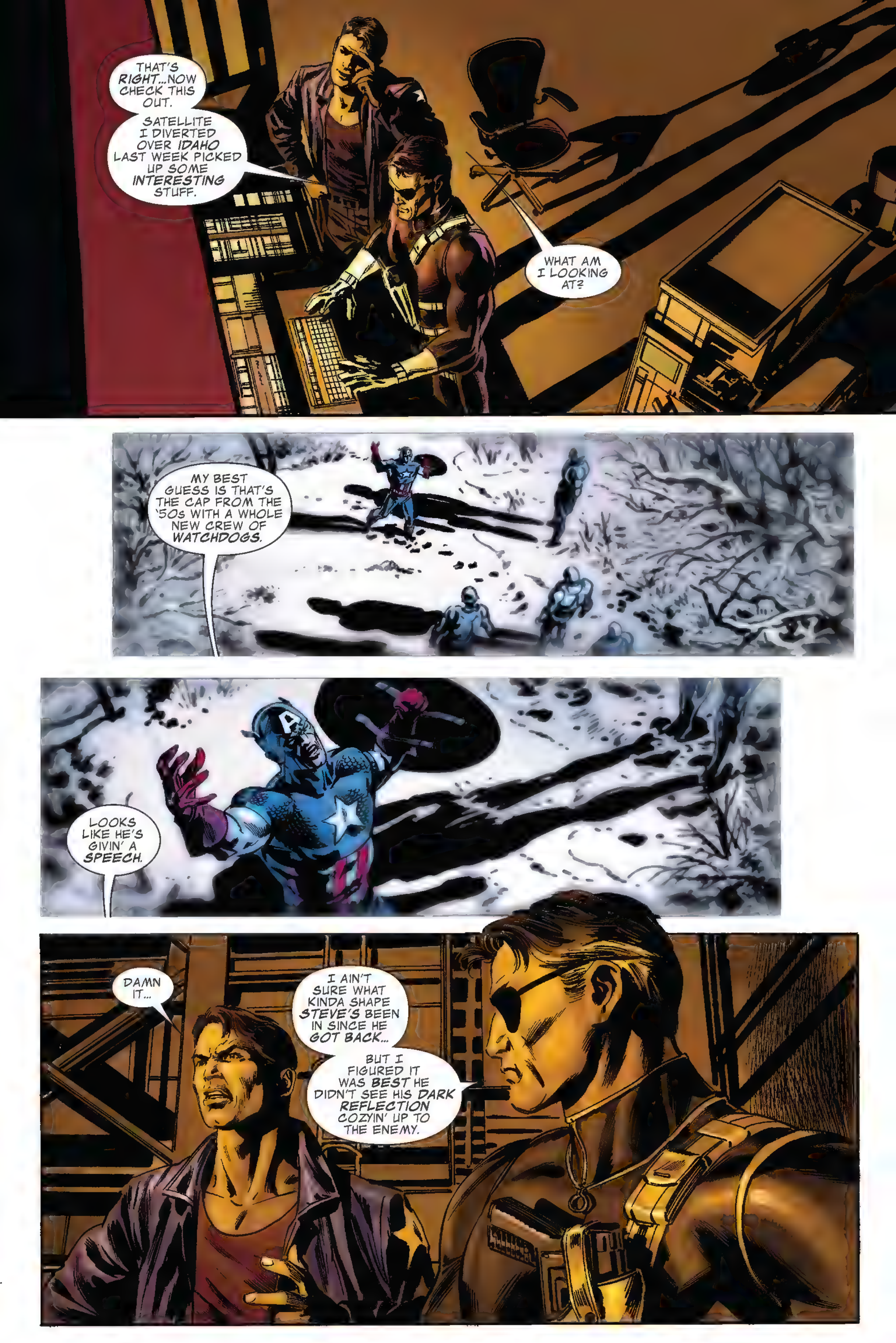

CALL IT IN!
WE NEED BACKUP!
BLAM
BLAMM

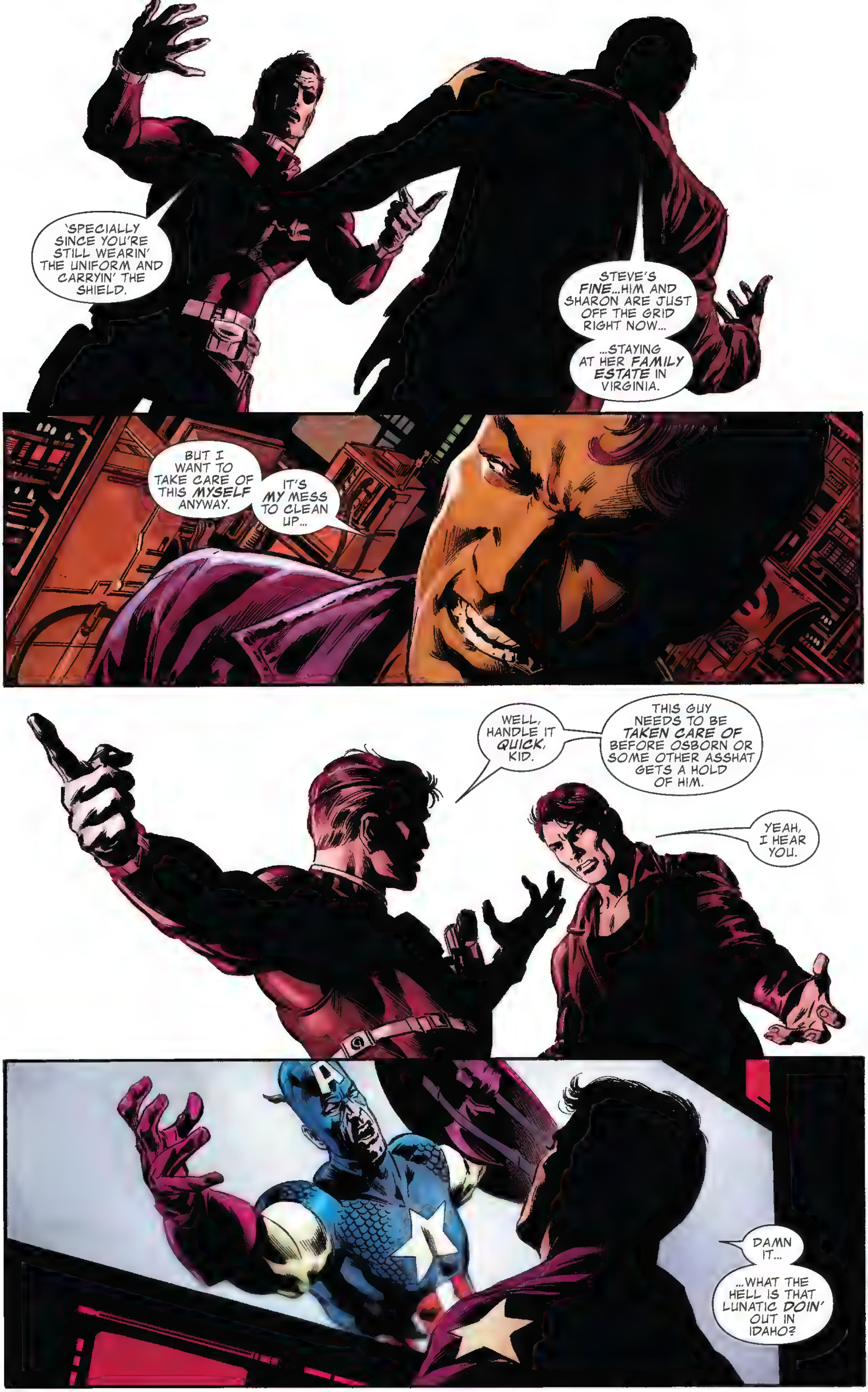

WE GOT RUNNERS!
NOT A PROBLEM.
SKAASSH
UKK--
NOT A PROBLEM AT ALL.

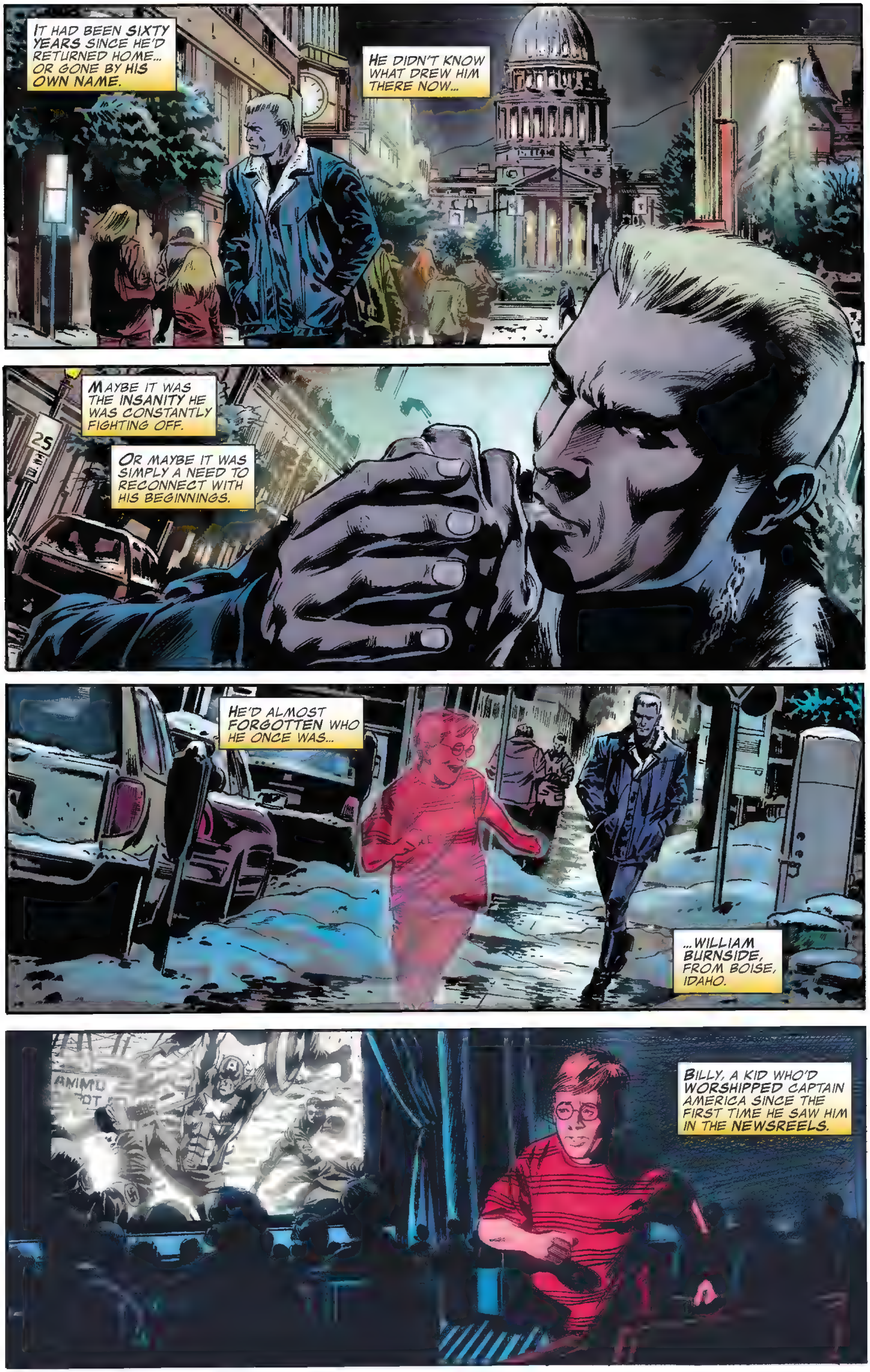

WHAT--?
SHERIFF
101
BOIS
S
KRUNNK
SHE

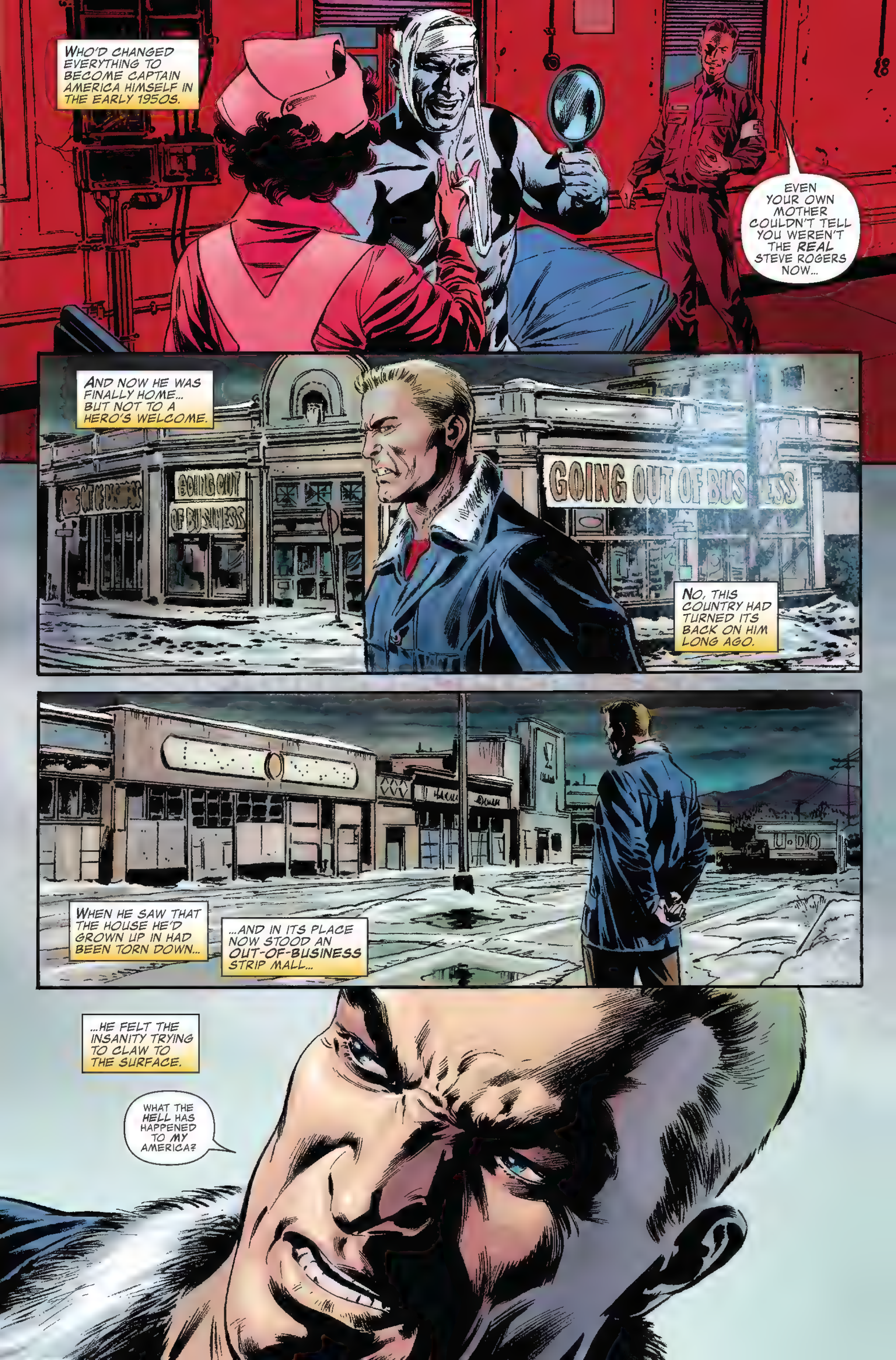

ALL RIGHT, BOYS, PACK IT ALL UP...WE HEAD FOR THE *COMPOUND*, NOW.
AND THEN WE GO GET OUR *COUNTRY* BACK.
TWO AMERICAS

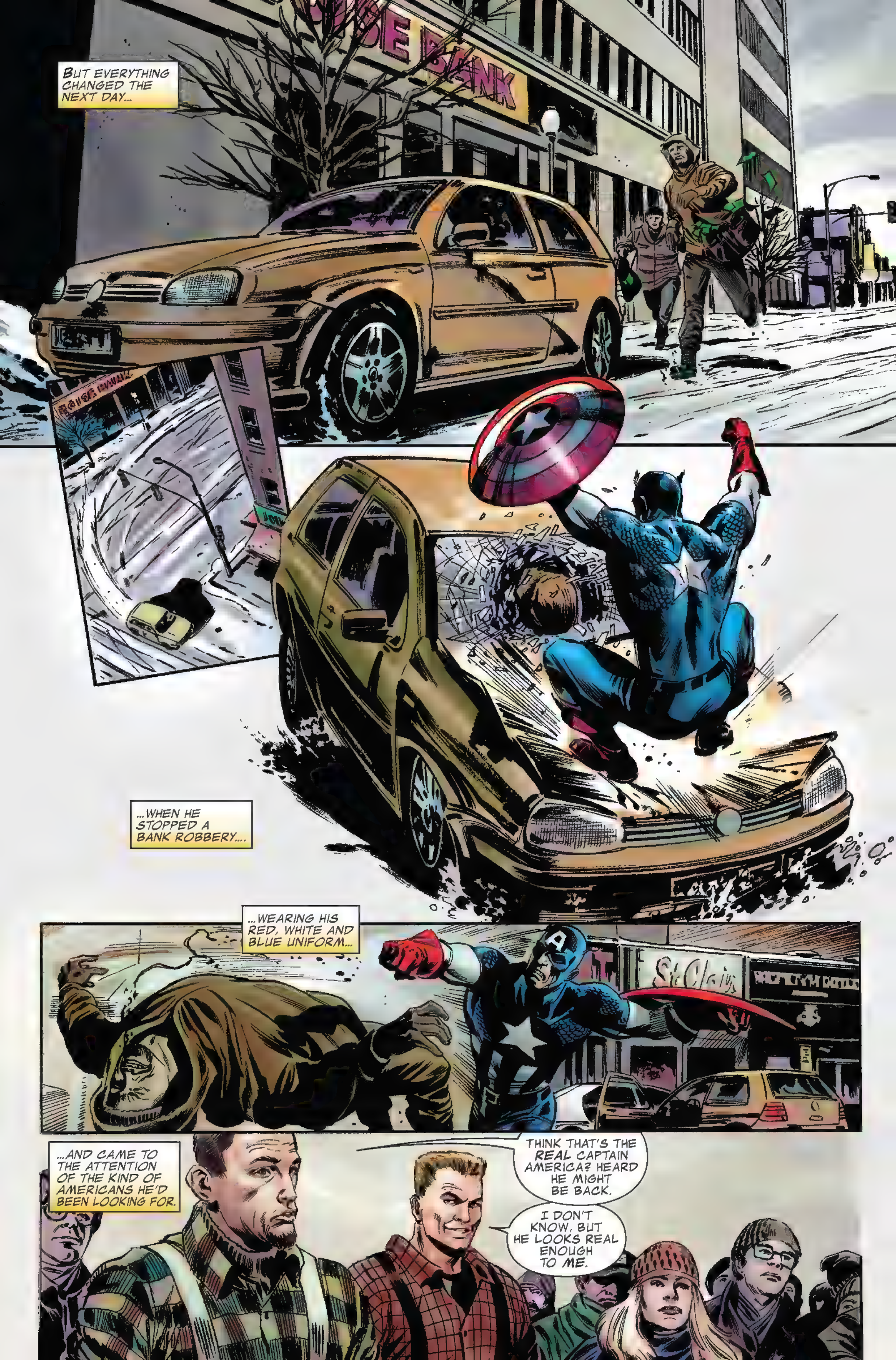

New York— Two Days Later.
"SO, WHATTAYA THINK, KID?"
One of Nick Fury's Many Secret Bases.
FEELS GOOD...AND LOOKS JUST LIKE A REAL ARM. FEELS LIKE FLESH, EVEN.
YEAH... FIGURED IT WAS ABOUT TIME YOU GOT AN UPGRADE...
...NOW THAT YOU'RE ALL PUBLIC AND EVERYTHING...
PLUS, NATASHA WAS WHINING ABOUT YOUR COLD HANDS...
HA. RIGHT...
THERE'S ANOTHER REASON I CALLED YOU DOWN HERE, THOUGH...
SOMETHIN' I WANTED YOU TO SEE.
REALLY? NICK FURY...WITH A SECRET AGENDA?
YOU DON'T SAY.

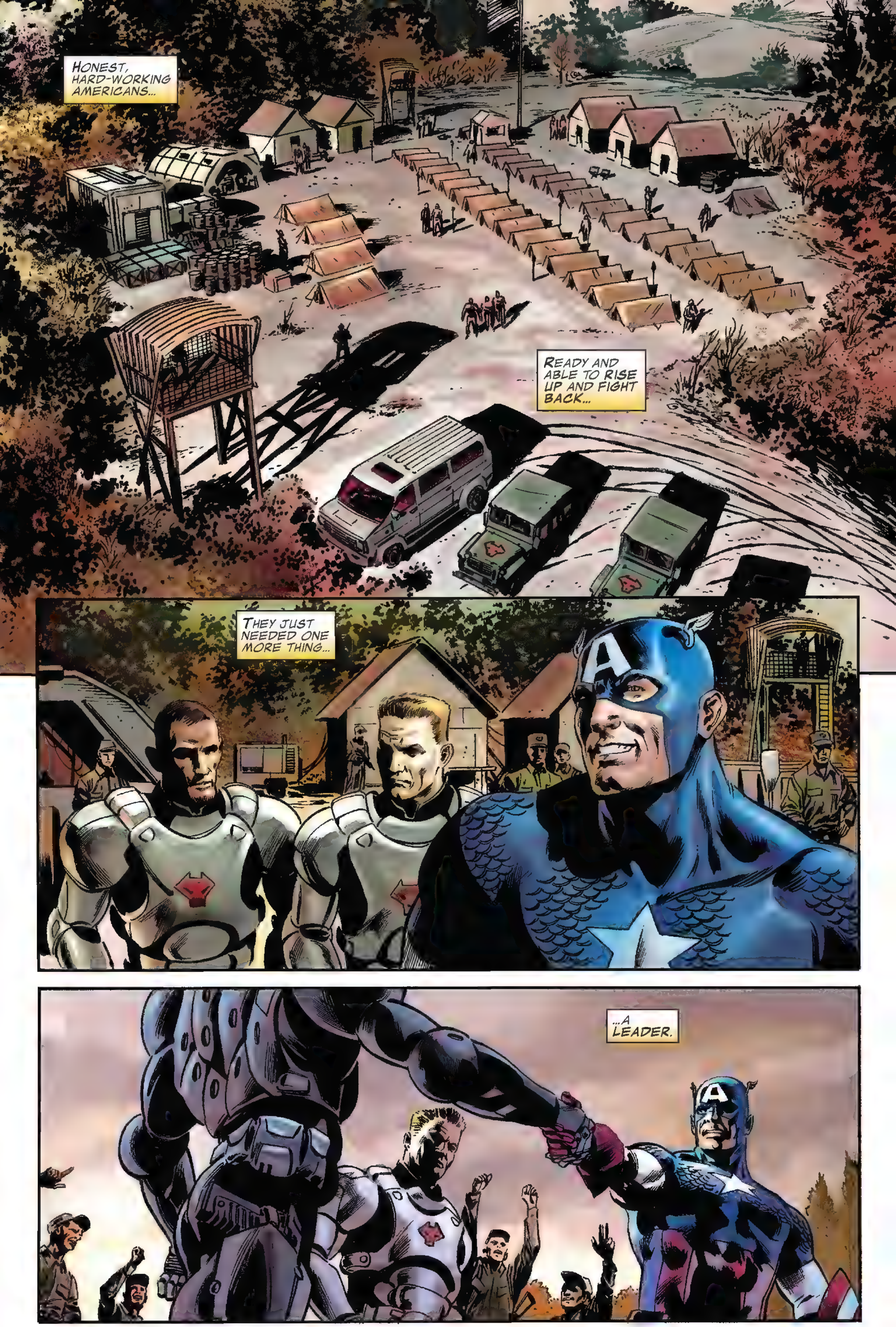

THAT'S *RIGHT*...NOW CHECK THIS OUT.
SATELLITE I DIVERTED OVER *IDAHO* LAST WEEK PICKED UP SOME *INTERESTING* STUFF.
WHAT AM I LOOKING AT?
MY BEST GUESS IS THAT'S THE CAP FROM THE '50s WITH A WHOLE NEW CREW OF *WATCHDOGS*.
LOOKS LIKE HE'S GIVIN' A *SPEECH*.
DAMN IT...
I AIN'T SURE WHAT KINDA SHAPE *STEVE'S* BEEN IN SINCE HE *GOT BACK*...
BUT I FIGURED IT WAS *BEST* HE DIDN'T SEE HIS *DARK REFLECTION* COZYIN' UP TO THE ENEMY.

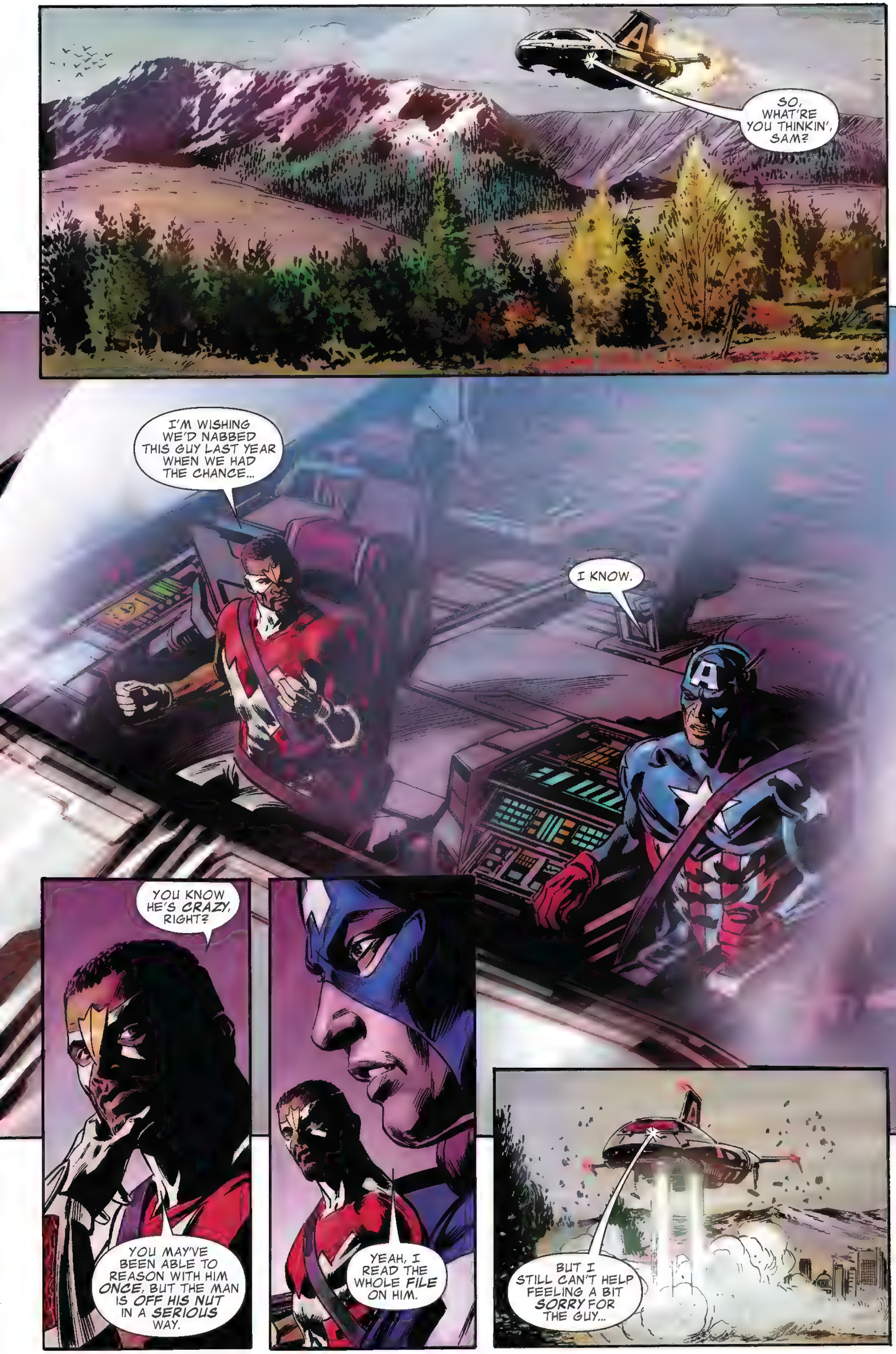

'SPECIALLY SINCE YOU'RE STILL WEARIN' THE UNIFORM AND CARRYIN' THE SHIELD.
STEVE'S *FINE*...HIM AND SHARON ARE JUST OFF THE GRID RIGHT NOW...
...STAYING AT HER *FAMILY ESTATE* IN VIRGINIA.
BUT I WANT TO TAKE CARE OF THIS *MYSELF* ANYWAY.
IT'S *MY* MESS TO CLEAN UP...
WELL, HANDLE IT *QUICK*, KID.
THIS GUY NEEDS TO BE *TAKEN CARE OF* BEFORE OSBORN OR SOME OTHER ASSHAT GETS A HOLD OF HIM.
YEAH, I HEAR YOU.
DAMN IT...
...WHAT THE HELL IS THAT LUNATIC *DOIN'* OUT IN IDAHO?

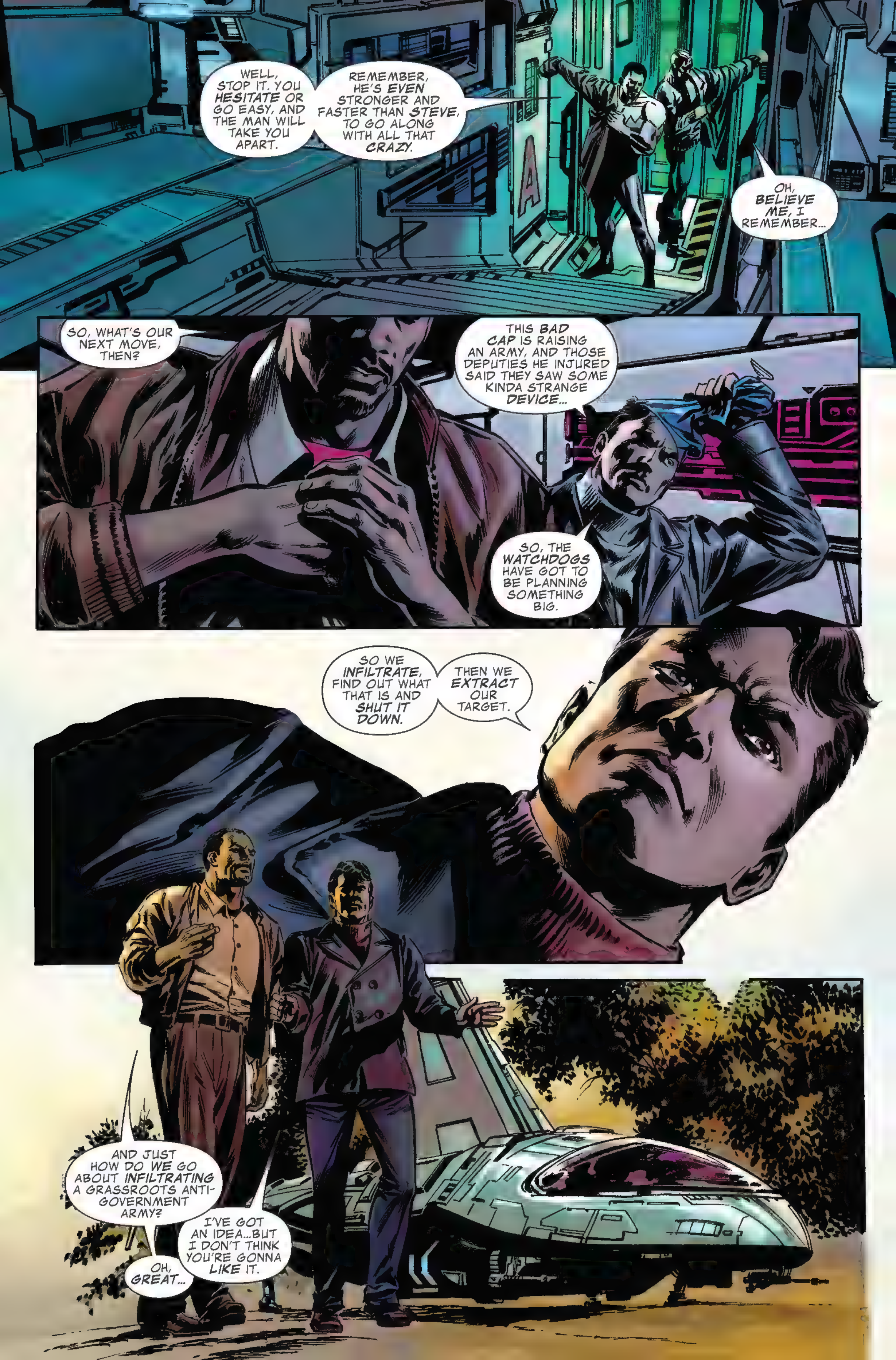

IT HAD BEEN SIXTY YEARS SINCE HE'D RETURNED HOME... OR GONE BY HIS OWN NAME.
HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT DREW HIM THERE NOW...
MAYBE IT WAS THE INSANITY HE WAS CONSTANTLY FIGHTING OFF.
OR MAYBE IT WAS SIMPLY A NEED TO RECONNECT WITH HIS BEGINNINGS.
25
HE'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN WHO HE ONCE WAS...
...WILLIAM BURNSIDE, FROM BOISE, IDAHO.
BILLY, A KID WHO'D WORSHIPPED CAPTAIN AMERICA SINCE THE FIRST TIME HE SAW HIM IN THE NEWSREELS.

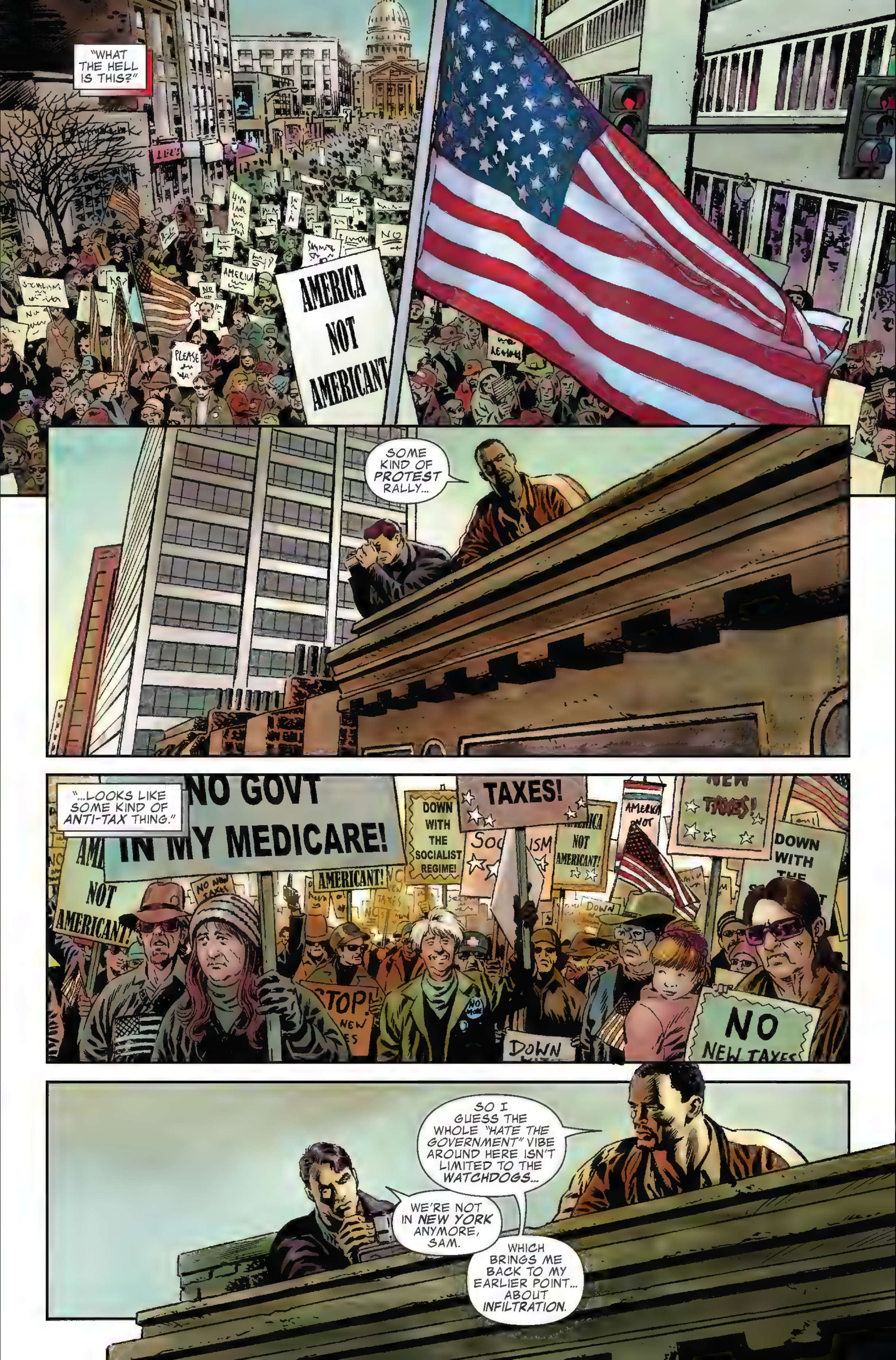

WHO'D CHANGED EVERYTHING TO BECOME CAPTAIN AMERICA HIMSELF IN THE EARLY 1950S.
EVEN YOUR OWN MOTHER COULDN'T TELL YOU WEREN'T THE **REAL** STEVE ROGERS NOW...
AND NOW HE WAS FINALLY HOME... BUT NOT TO A HERO'S WELCOME.
GOING OUT OF BUSINESS
GOING OUT OF BUSINESS
NO, THIS COUNTRY HAD TURNED ITS BACK ON HIM LONG AGO.
WHEN HE SAW THAT THE HOUSE HE'D GROWN UP IN HAD BEEN TORN DOWN...
...AND IN ITS PLACE NOW STOOD AN **OUT-OF-BUSINESS** STRIP MALL...
...HE FELT THE INSANITY TRYING TO CLAW TO THE SURFACE.
WHAT THE **HELL** HAS HAPPENED TO **MY** AMERICA?

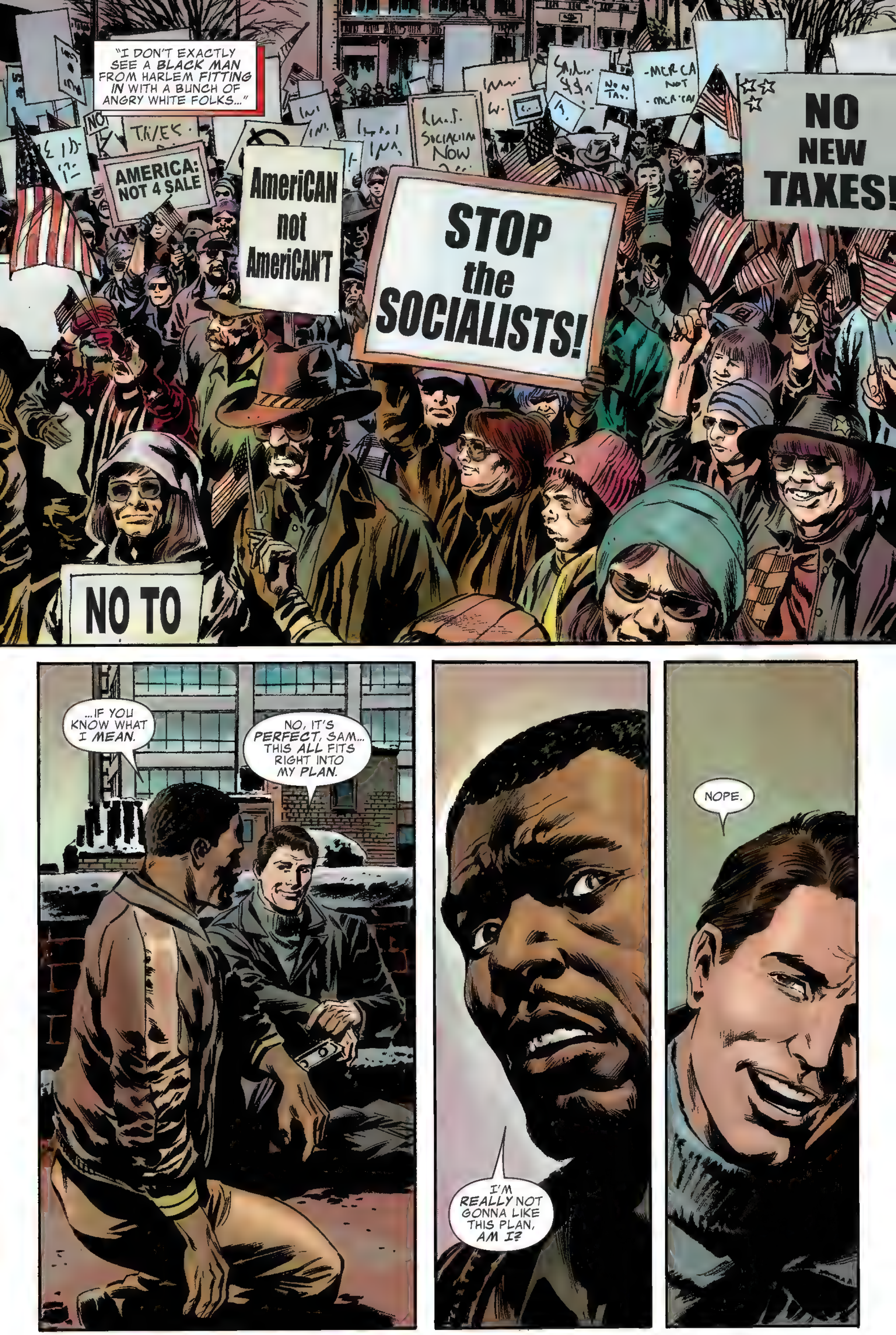

BUT EVERYTHING CHANGED THE NEXT DAY...
...WHEN HE STOPPED A BANK ROBBERY....
...WEARING HIS RED, WHITE AND BLUE UNIFORM...
...AND CAME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE KIND OF AMERICANS HE'D BEEN LOOKING FOR.
THINK THAT'S THE **REAL** CAPTAIN AMERICA? HEARD HE MIGHT BE BACK.
I DON'T KNOW, BUT HE LOOKS REAL ENOUGH TO **ME**.

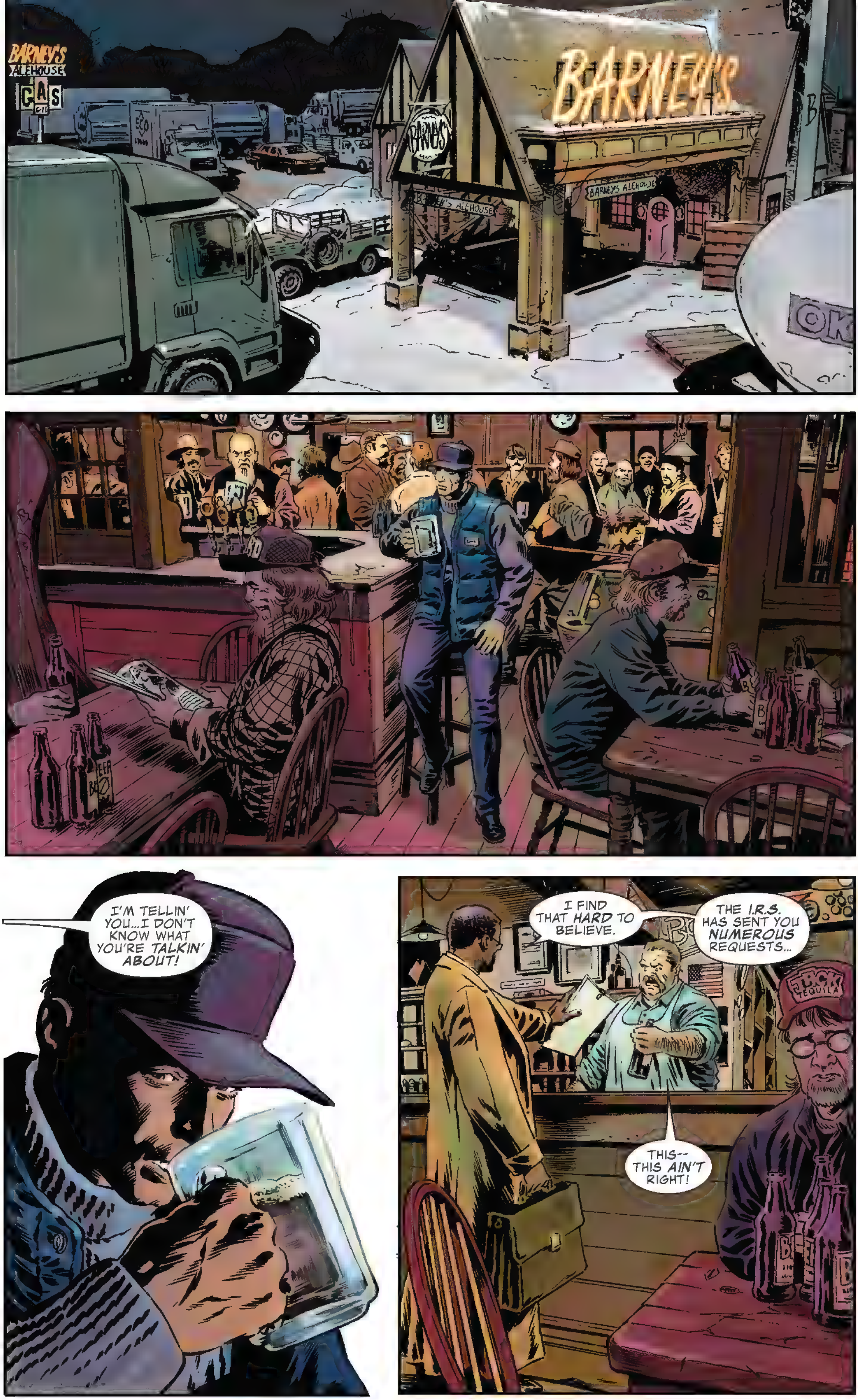

HONEST, HARD-WORKING AMERICANS...
READY AND ABLE TO RISE UP AND FIGHT BACK...
THEY JUST NEEDED ONE MORE THING...
...A LEADER.

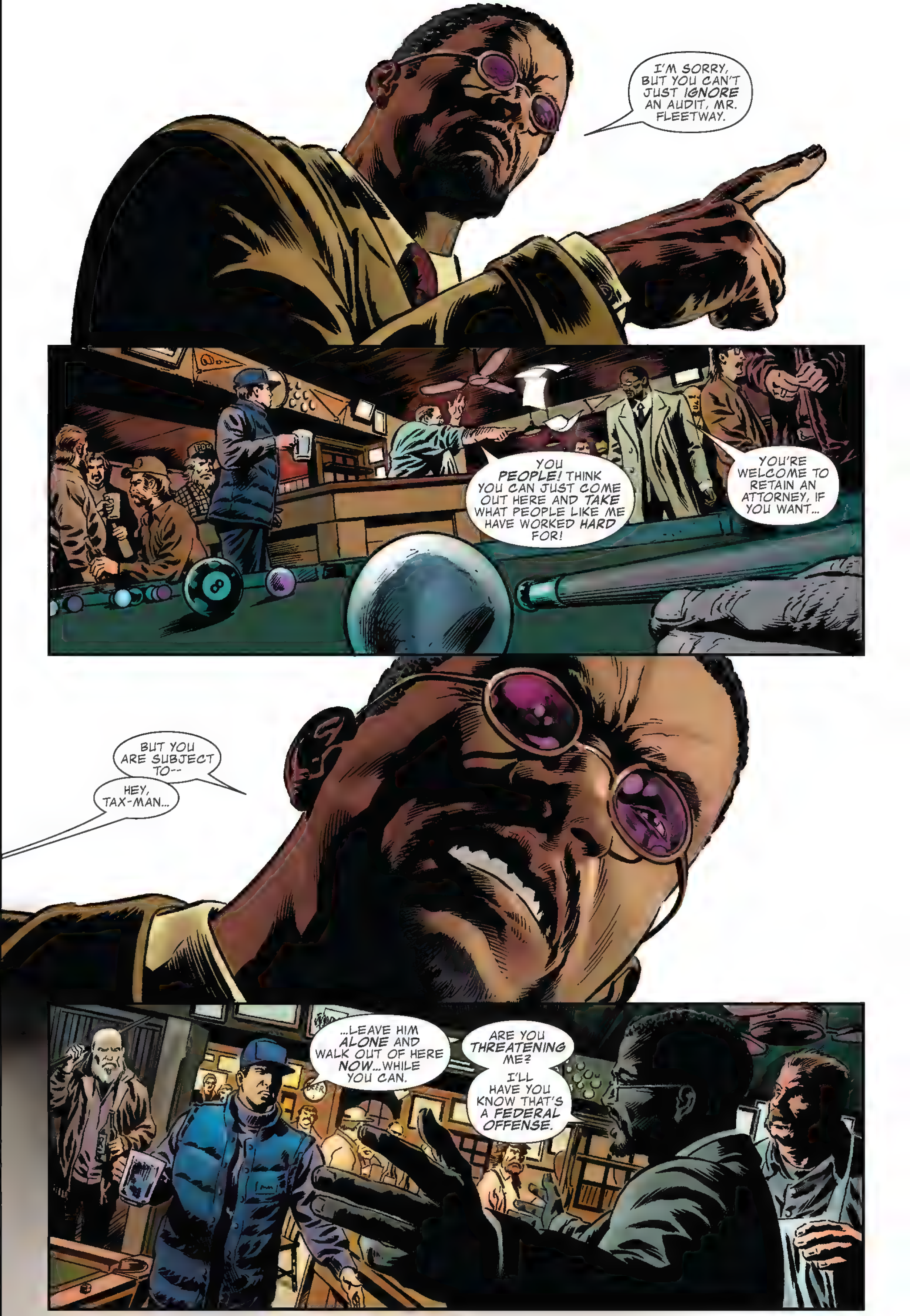

SO, WHAT'RE YOU THINKIN', SAM?
I'M WISHING WE'D NABBED THIS GUY LAST YEAR WHEN WE HAD THE CHANCE...
I KNOW.
YOU KNOW HE'S *CRAZY*, RIGHT?
YOU MAY'VE BEEN ABLE TO REASON WITH HIM *ONCE*, BUT THE MAN IS *OFF HIS NUT* IN A *SERIOUS* WAY.
YEAH, I READ THE WHOLE *FILE* ON HIM.
BUT I STILL CAN'T HELP FEELING A BIT *SORRY* FOR THE GUY...

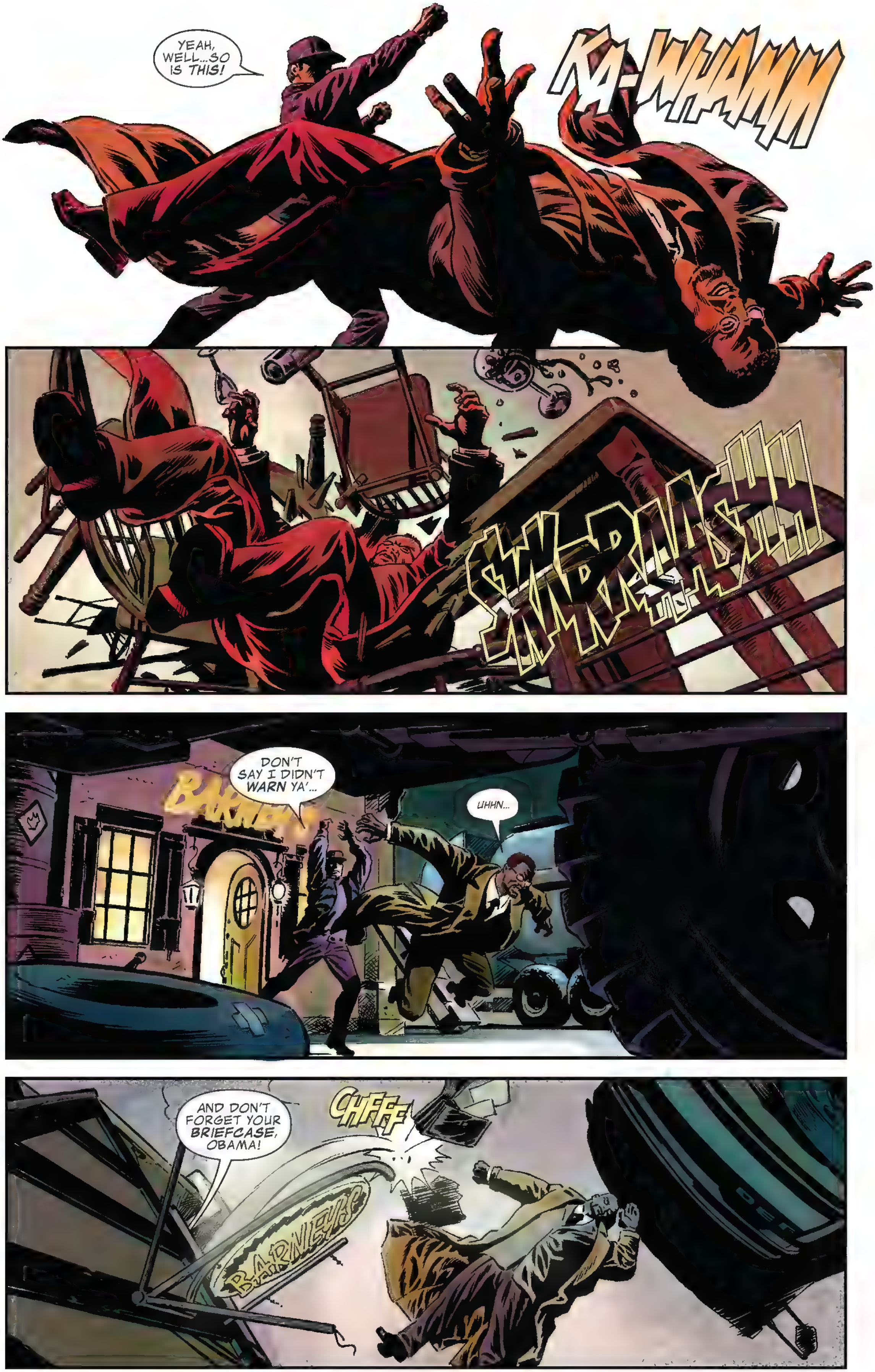

WELL, STOP IT. YOU HESITATE OR GO EASY, AND THE MAN WILL TAKE YOU APART.
REMEMBER, HE'S EVEN STRONGER AND FASTER THAN STEVE, TO GO ALONG WITH ALL THAT CRAZY.
OH, BELIEVE ME, I REMEMBER...
SO, WHAT'S OUR NEXT MOVE, THEN?
THIS BAD CAP IS RAISING AN ARMY, AND THOSE DEPUTIES HE INJURED SAID THEY SAW SOME KINDA STRANGE DEVICE...
SO, THE WATCHDOGS HAVE GOT TO BE PLANNING SOMETHING BIG.
SO WE INFILTRATE, FIND OUT WHAT THAT IS AND SHUT IT DOWN.
THEN WE EXTRACT OUR TARGET.
AND JUST HOW DO WE GO ABOUT INFILTRATING A GRASSROOTS ANTI-GOVERNMENT ARMY?
I'VE GOT AN IDEA...BUT I DON'T THINK YOU'RE GONNA LIKE IT.
OH, GREAT...

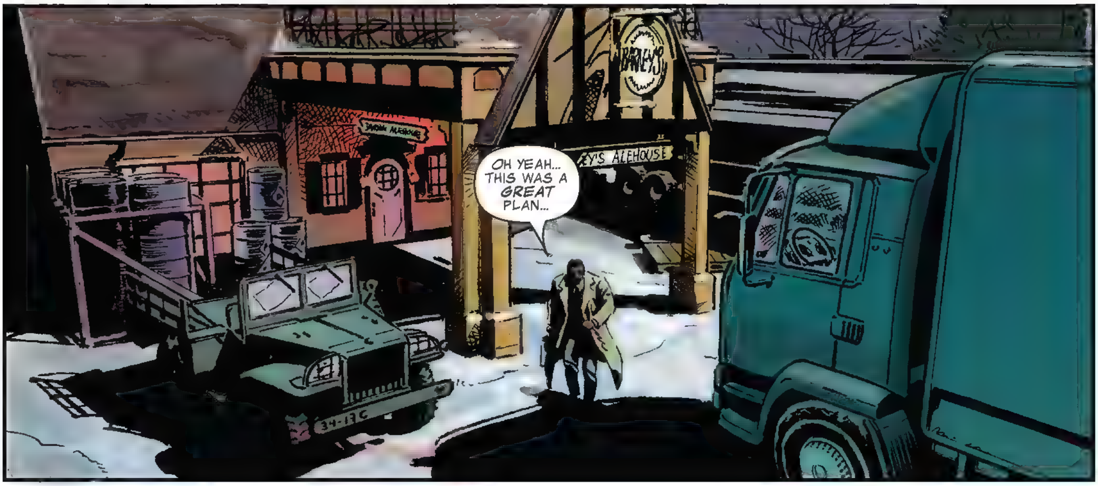

"WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?"
AMERICA NOT AMERICANT
PLEASE
SOME KIND OF *PROTEST* RALLY...
"...LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF *ANTI-TAX* THING."
NO GOVT IN MY MEDICARE!
AMERICA NOT AMERICANT!
DOWN WITH THE SOCIALIST REGIME!
TAXES!
AMERICANT!
AMERICA NOT AMERICANT!
NO NEW TAXES
DOWN WITH THE
STOP! NEW TAXES
NO NEW TAXES
SO I GUESS THE WHOLE "HATE THE GOVERNMENT" VIBE AROUND HERE ISN'T LIMITED TO THE *WATCHDOGS*...
WE'RE NOT IN *NEW YORK* ANYMORE, SAM.
WHICH BRINGS ME BACK TO MY EARLIER POINT... ABOUT *INFILTRATION*.

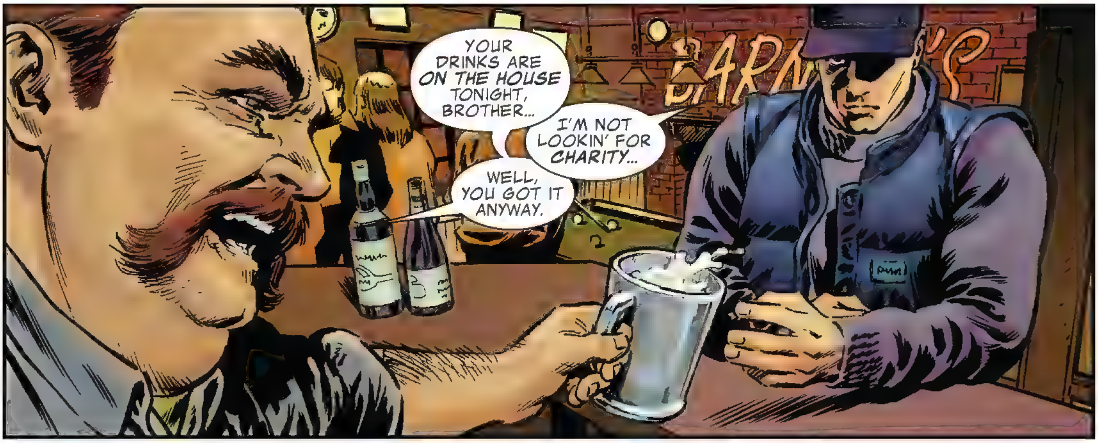

"I DON'T EXACTLY SEE A *BLACK MAN* FROM HARLEM *FITTING IN* WITH A BUNCH OF ANGRY WHITE FOLKS..."
AMERICA: NOT 4 SALE
AmeriCAN not AmeriCAN'T
STOP the SOCIALISTS!
NO NEW TAXES!
NO TO
...IF YOU KNOW WHAT I *MEAN*.
NO, IT'S *PERFECT*, SAM... THIS *ALL* FITS RIGHT INTO MY *PLAN*.
I'M *REALLY* NOT GONNA LIKE THIS PLAN, *AM I?*
NOPE.

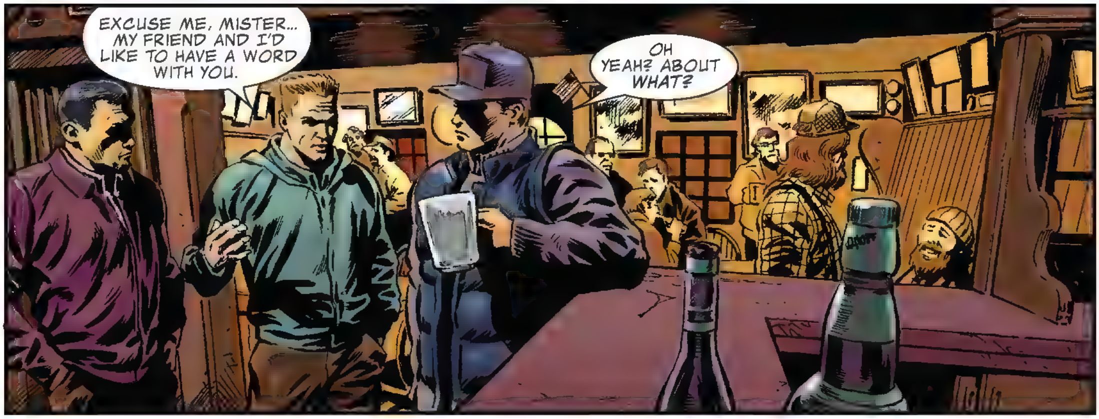

BARNEY'S ALEHOUSE
GAS
BARNEY'S
BARNEY'S ALEHOUSE
BARNEY'S ALEHOUSE
OK
I'M TELLIN' YOU...I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE *TALKIN'* *ABOUT!*
I FIND THAT *HARD* TO BELIEVE.
THE *I.R.S.* HAS SENT YOU *NUMEROUS* REQUESTS...
JACK TEQUILA
THIS-- THIS *AIN'T* RIGHT!

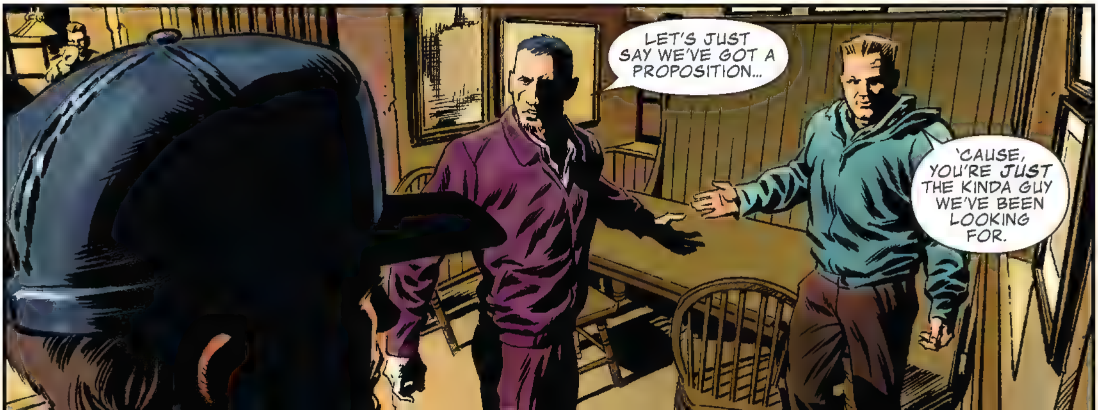

I'M SORRY, BUT YOU CAN'T JUST IGNORE AN AUDIT, MR. FLEETWAY.
YOU PEOPLE! THINK YOU CAN JUST COME OUT HERE AND TAKE WHAT PEOPLE LIKE ME HAVE WORKED HARD FOR!
YOU'RE WELCOME TO RETAIN AN ATTORNEY, IF YOU WANT...
BUT YOU ARE SUBJECT TO--
HEY, TAX-MAN...
...LEAVE HIM ALONE AND WALK OUT OF HERE NOW...WHILE YOU CAN.
ARE YOU THREATENING ME?
I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW THAT'S A FEDERAL OFFENSE.

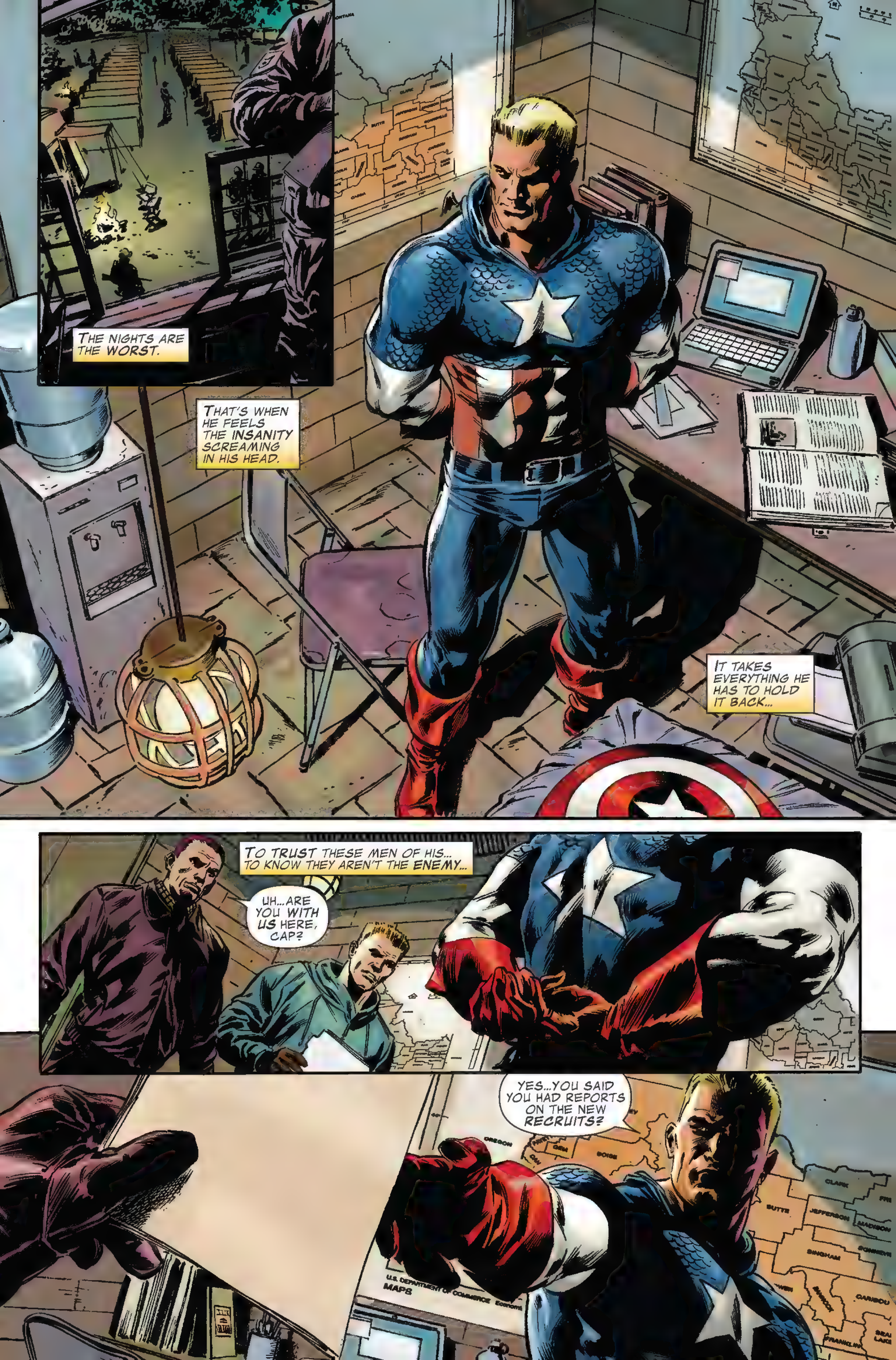

YEAH, WELL...SO IS THIS!
KA-WHAMM
SKRAASHH
DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YA'...
UHHN...
AND DON'T FORGET YOUR BRIEFCASE, OBAMA!
CHFFF
BARNEY'S

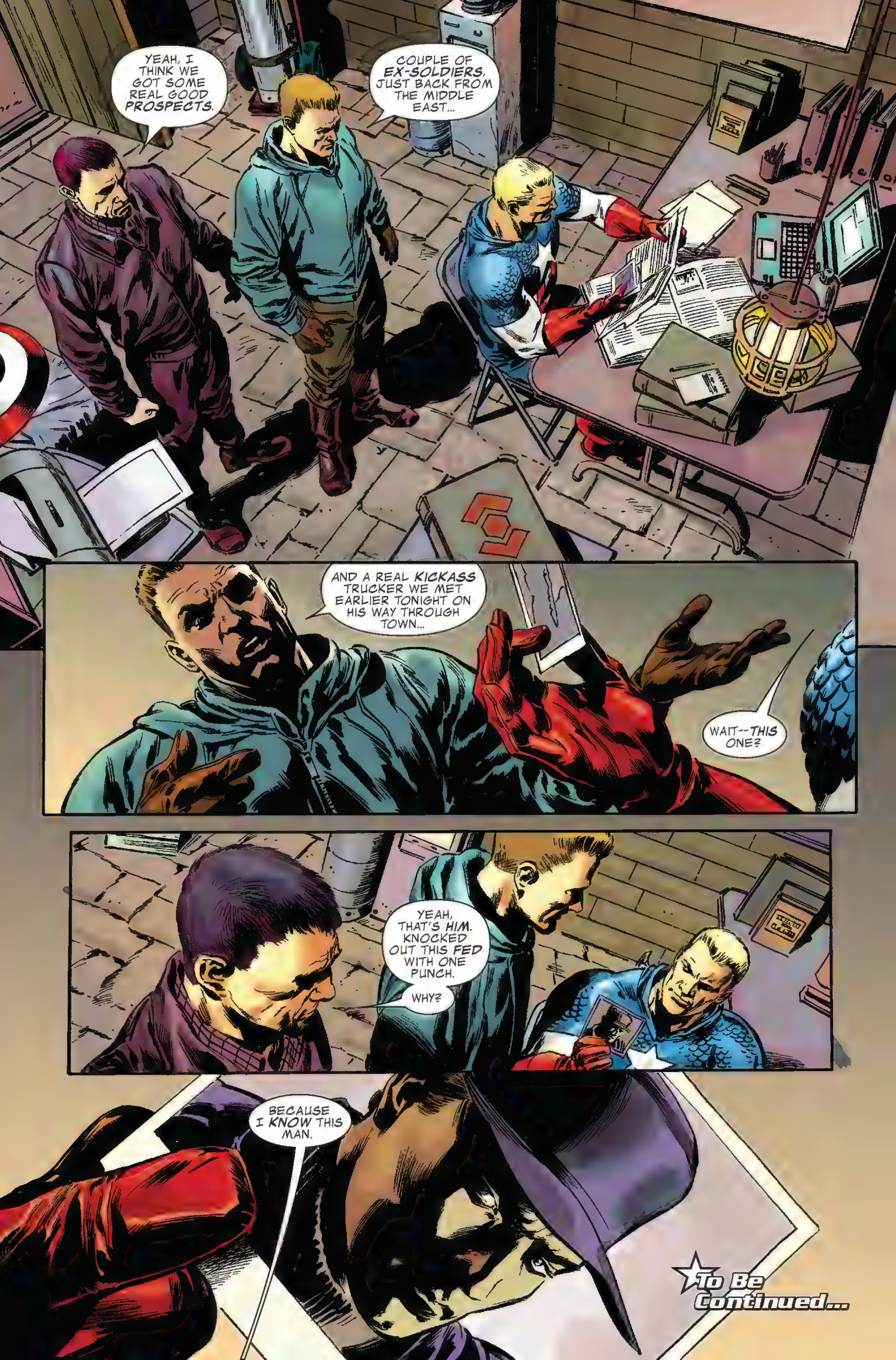

BARNEY'S
Y'S ALEHOUSE
34-13C
OH YEAH... THIS WAS A *GREAT* PLAN...


YOUR DRINKS ARE *ON THE HOUSE* TONIGHT, BROTHER...
I'M NOT LOOKIN' FOR *CHARITY*...
WELL, YOU GOT IT ANYWAY.


EXCUSE ME, MISTER... MY FRIEND AND I'D LIKE TO HAVE A WORD WITH YOU.
OH YEAH? ABOUT *WHAT?*


LET'S JUST SAY WE'VE GOT A PROPOSITION...
'CAUSE, YOU'RE *JUST* THE KINDA GUY WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR.


THE NIGHTS ARE THE WORST.
THAT'S WHEN HE FEELS THE INSANITY SCREAMING IN HIS HEAD.
IT TAKES EVERYTHING HE HAS TO HOLD IT BACK...
TO TRUST THESE MEN OF HIS... TO KNOW THEY AREN'T THE ENEMY...
UH...ARE YOU WITH US HERE, CAP?
YES...YOU SAID YOU HAD REPORTS ON THE NEW RECRUITS?
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
MAPS
OREGON
BOISE
CLARK
BUTTE
JEFFERSON
MADISON
BINGHAM
BONNEVILLE
CARIBOU
FRANKLIN


YEAH, I THINK WE GOT SOME REAL GOOD PROSPECTS.
COUPLE OF EX-SOLDIERS, JUST BACK FROM THE MIDDLE EAST...
AND A REAL KICKASS TRUCKER WE MET EARLIER TONIGHT ON HIS WAY THROUGH TOWN...
WAIT--THIS ONE?
YEAH, THAT'S HIM. KNOCKED OUT THIS FED WITH ONE PUNCH.
WHY?
BECAUSE I KNOW THIS MAN.
To Be Continued...

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CAPTAIN AMERICA

ALSO FEATURING
NOMAD

BRUBAKER
ROSS
GUICE
WHITE

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CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the man who was Captain America, Cap's former partner during World War II, James "Bucky" Barnes, has taken on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

During the 1950s, while the original Cap was in suspended animation, another Captain America was created. While a nearly perfect physical match for Steve Rogers, this new and recently revived Cap became severely mentally unstable and now leads an army whose purpose is to "reclaim" America.

Bucky, having let the psychotic Captain America escape once before, is now working with Sam Wilson, aka the Falcon, to infiltrate the Watchdogs, a paramilitary anti-government ring, and apprehend the rogue super soldier.

TWO AMERICAS Part 2

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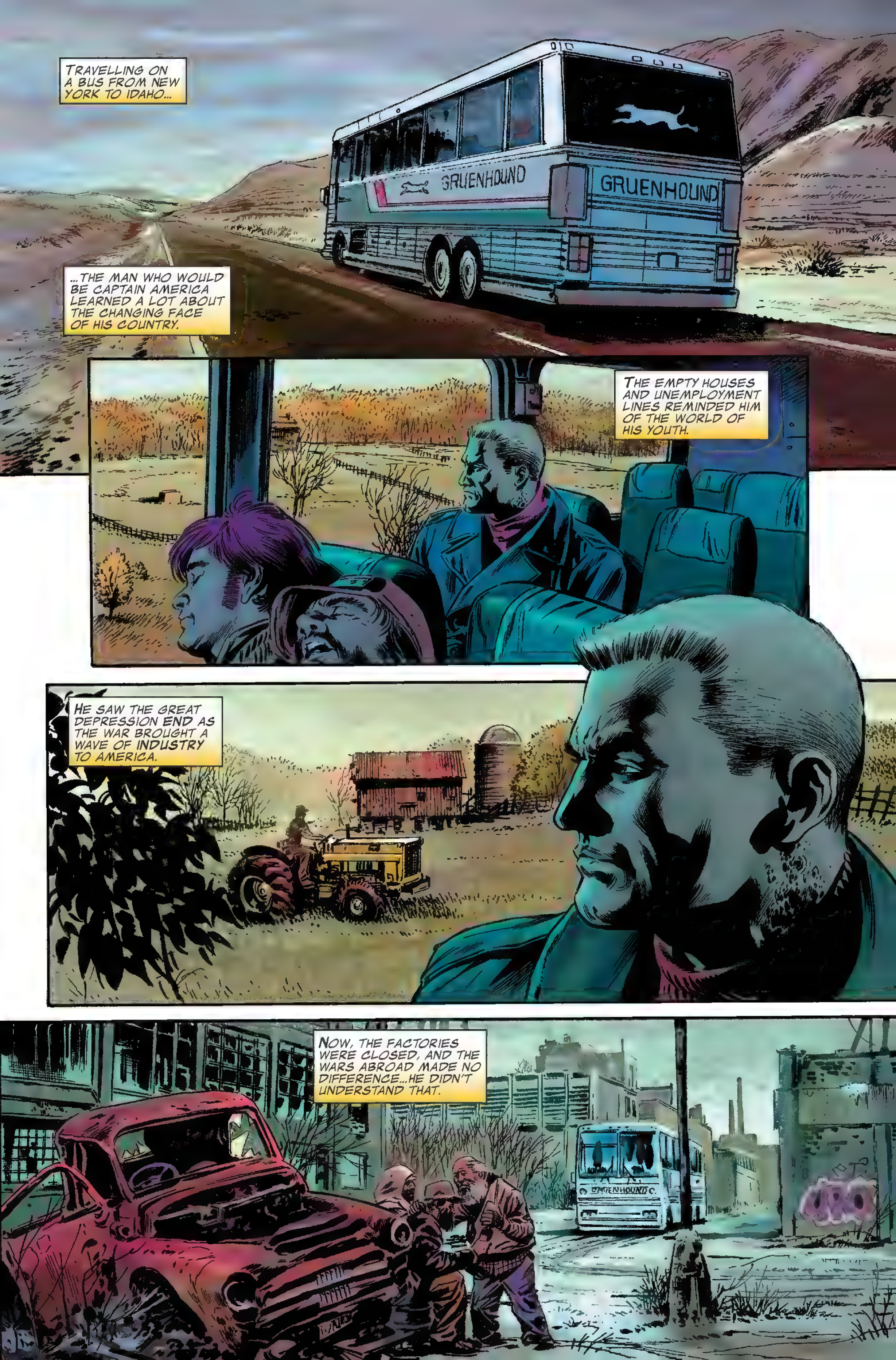
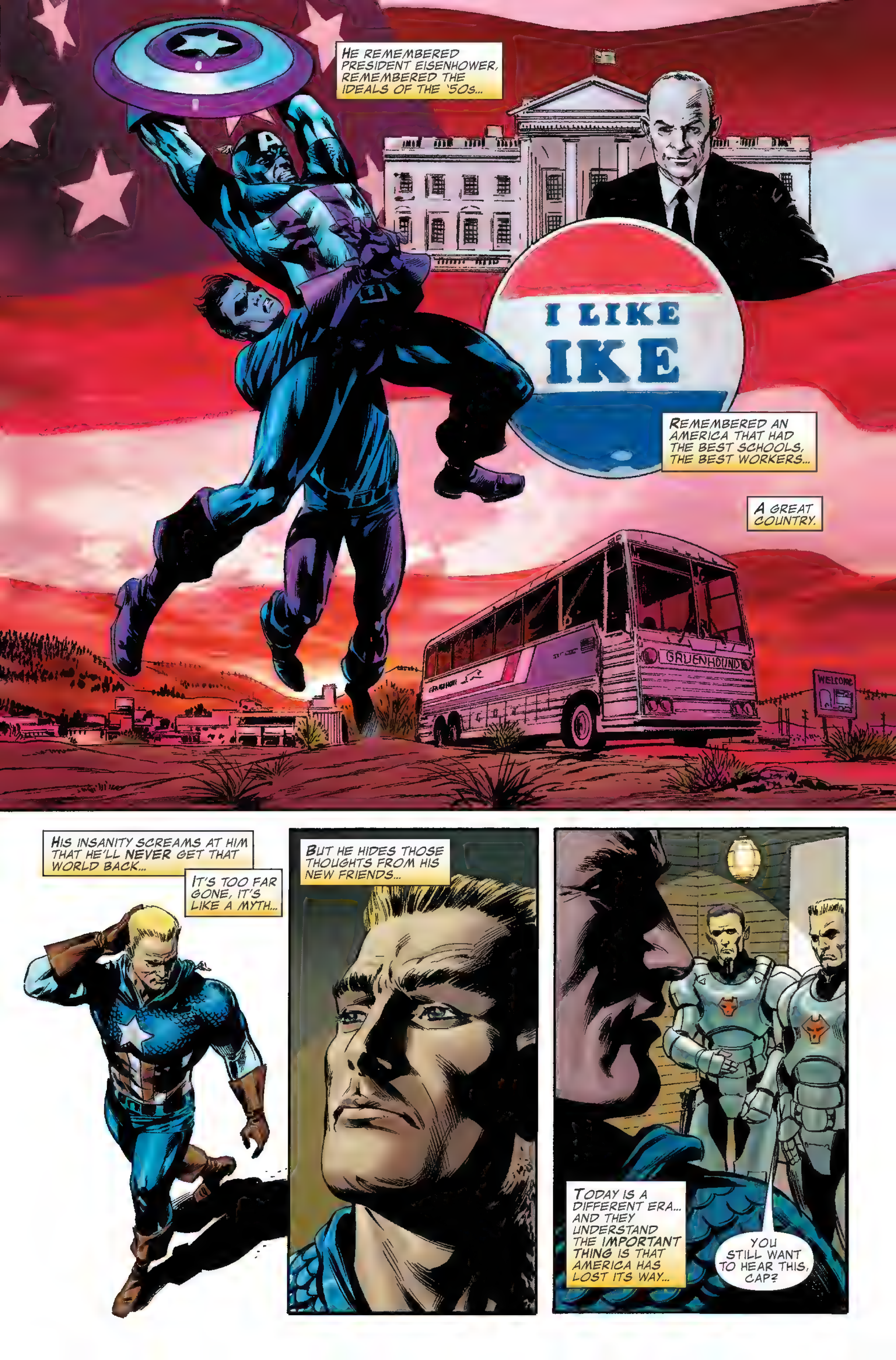
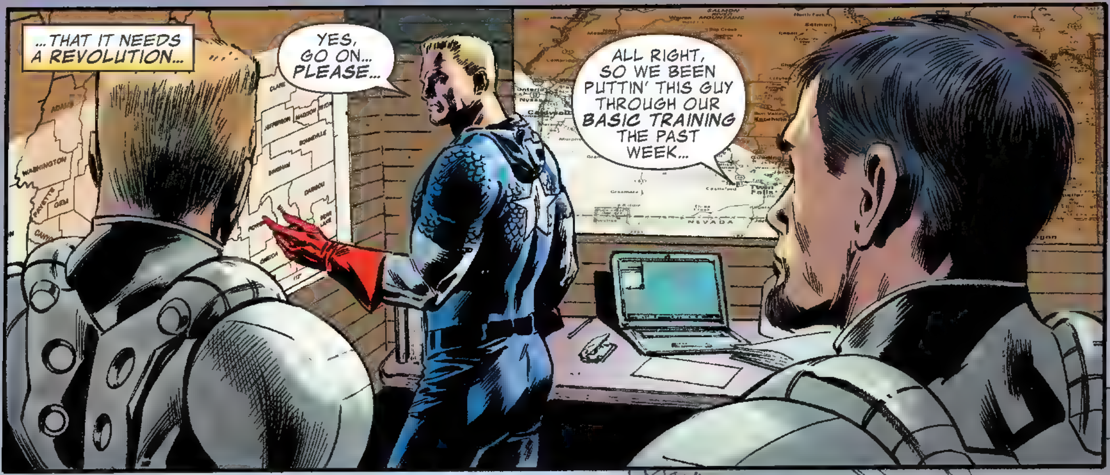
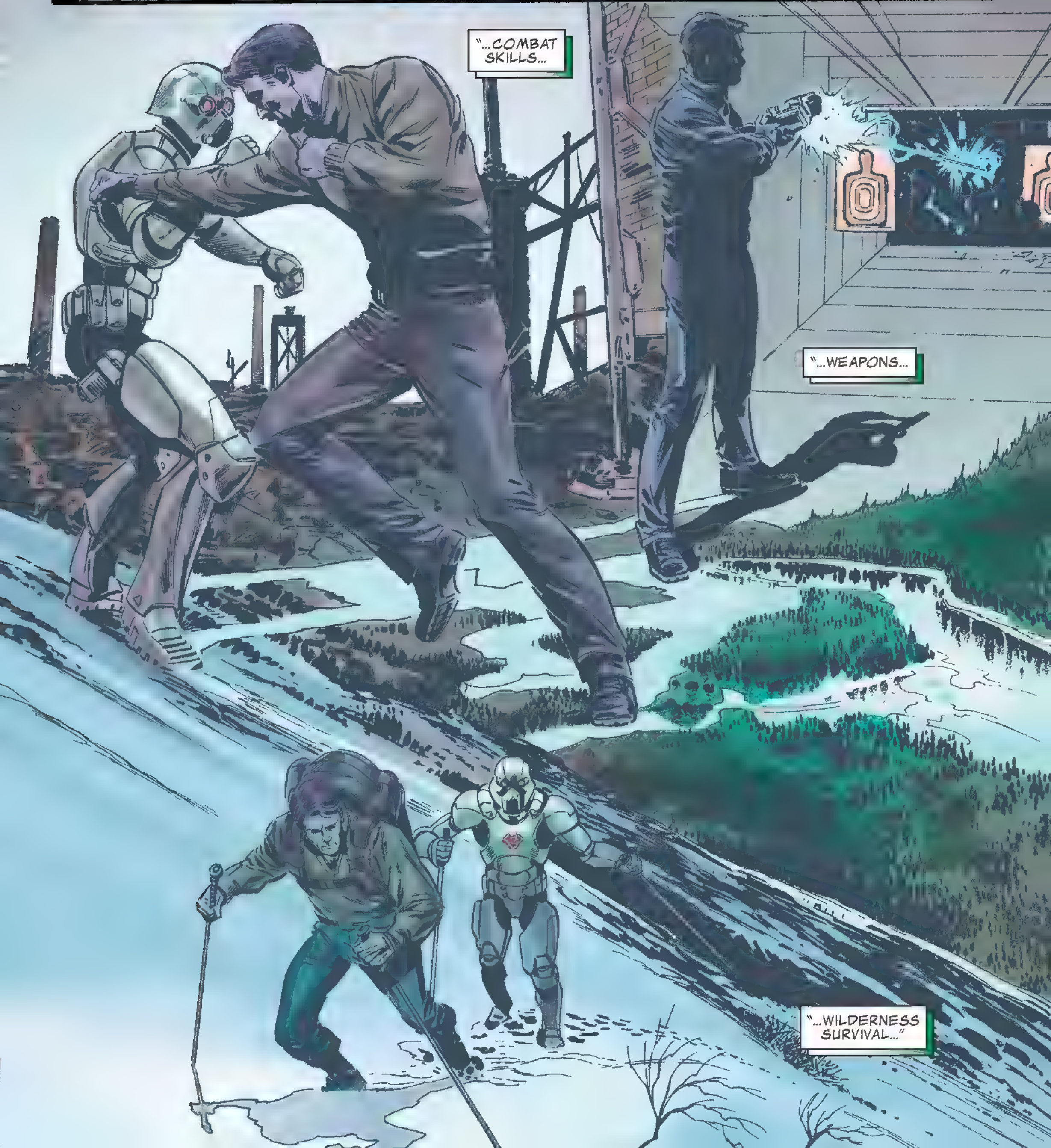
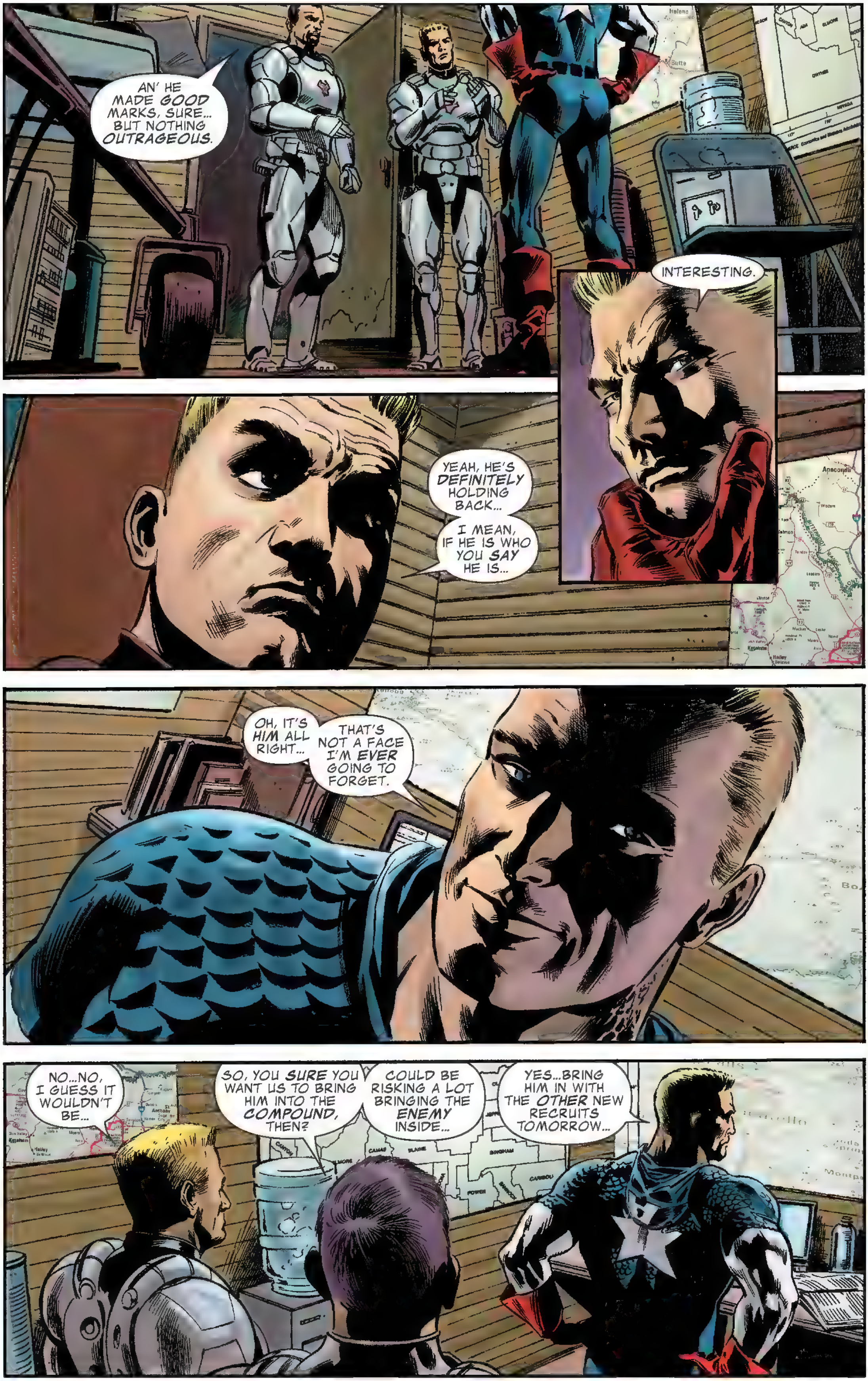
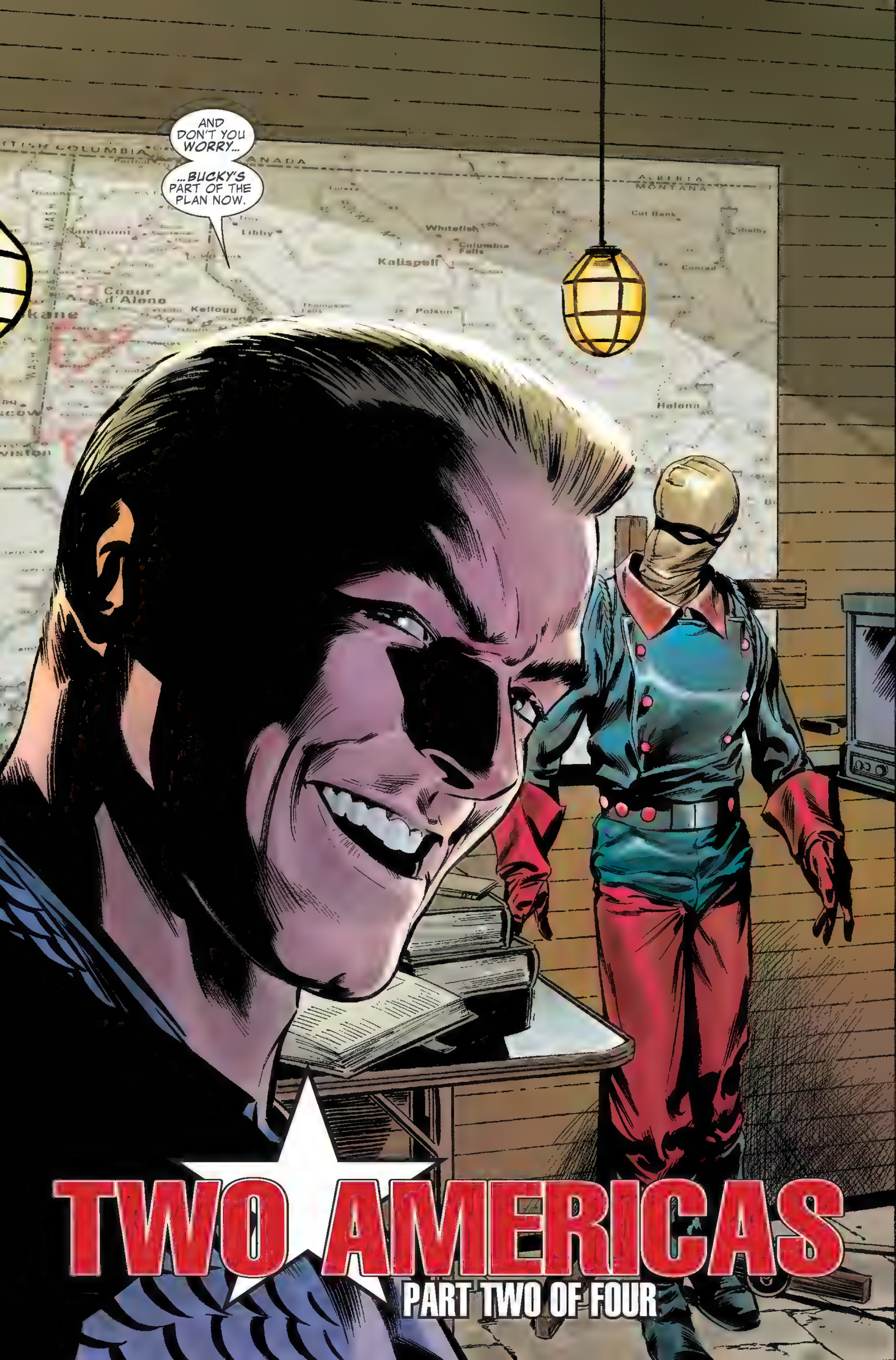

TRAVELLING ON A BUS FROM NEW YORK TO IDAHO...
GRUENHOUND
GRUENHOUND
...THE MAN WHO WOULD BE CAPTAIN AMERICA LEARNED A LOT ABOUT THE CHANGING FACE OF HIS COUNTRY.
THE EMPTY HOUSES AND UNEMPLOYMENT LINES REMINDED HIM OF THE WORLD OF HIS YOUTH.
HE SAW THE GREAT DEPRESSION END AS THE WAR BROUGHT A WAVE OF INDUSTRY TO AMERICA.
NOW, THE FACTORIES WERE CLOSED, AND THE WARS ABROAD MADE NO DIFFERENCE...HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT.
GRUENHOUND


HE REMEMBERED PRESIDENT EISENHOWER, REMEMBERED THE IDEALS OF THE '50s...
I LIKE IKE
REMEMBERED AN AMERICA THAT HAD THE BEST SCHOOLS, THE BEST WORKERS...
A GREAT COUNTRY.
GRUENHOUND
WELCOME
HIS INSANITY SCREAMS AT HIM THAT HE'LL NEVER GET THAT WORLD BACK...
IT'S TOO FAR GONE, IT'S LIKE A MYTH...
BUT HE HIDES THOSE THOUGHTS FROM HIS NEW FRIENDS...
TODAY IS A DIFFERENT ERA... AND THEY UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT AMERICA HAS LOST ITS WAY...
YOU STILL WANT TO HEAR THIS, CAP?


...THAT IT NEEDS A REVOLUTION...
YES, GO ON... PLEASE...
ALL RIGHT, SO WE BEEN PUTTIN' THIS GUY THROUGH OUR BASIC TRAINING THE PAST WEEK...

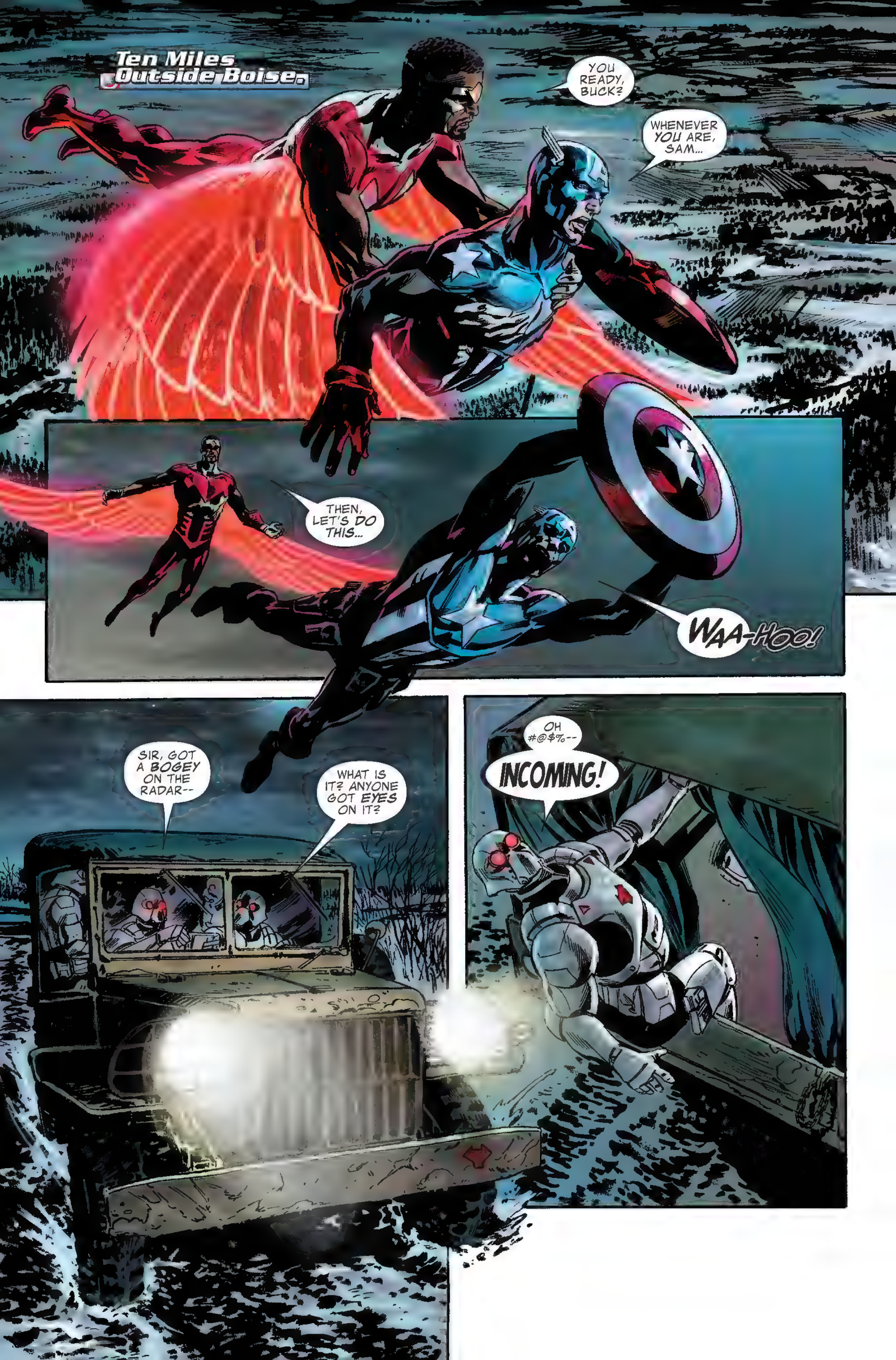

"...COMBAT SKILLS...
"...WEAPONS...
"...WILDERNESS SURVIVAL..."

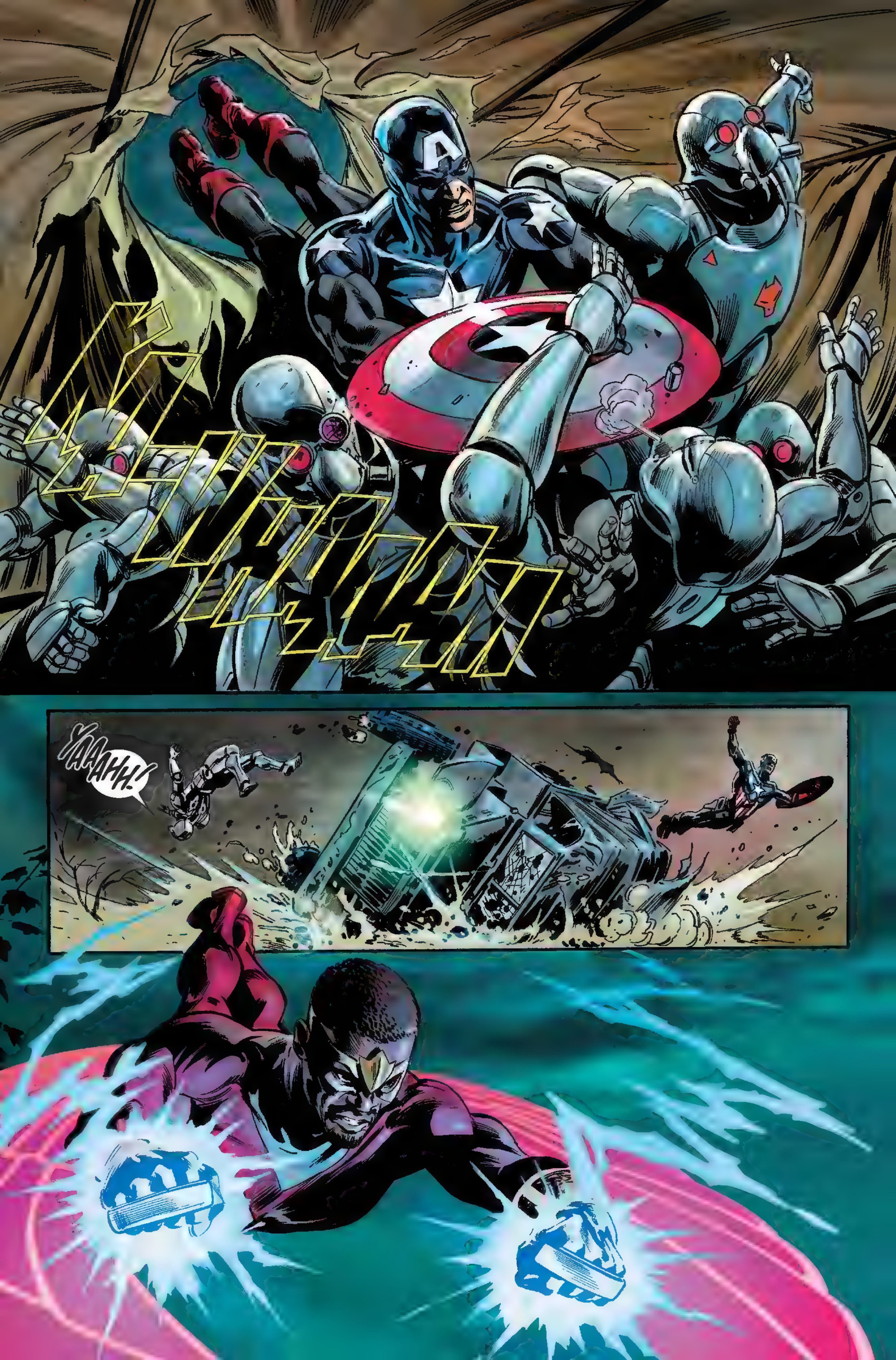

AN' HE MADE GOOD MARKS, SURE... BUT NOTHING OUTRAGEOUS.
INTERESTING.
YEAH, HE'S DEFINITELY HOLDING BACK...
I MEAN, IF HE IS WHO YOU SAY HE IS...
OH, IT'S HIM ALL RIGHT...
THAT'S NOT A FACE I'M EVER GOING TO FORGET.
NO...NO, I GUESS IT WOULDN'T BE...
SO, YOU SURE YOU WANT US TO BRING HIM INTO THE COMPOUND, THEN?
COULD BE RISKING A LOT BRINGING THE ENEMY INSIDE...
YES...BRING HIM IN WITH THE OTHER NEW RECRUITS TOMORROW...

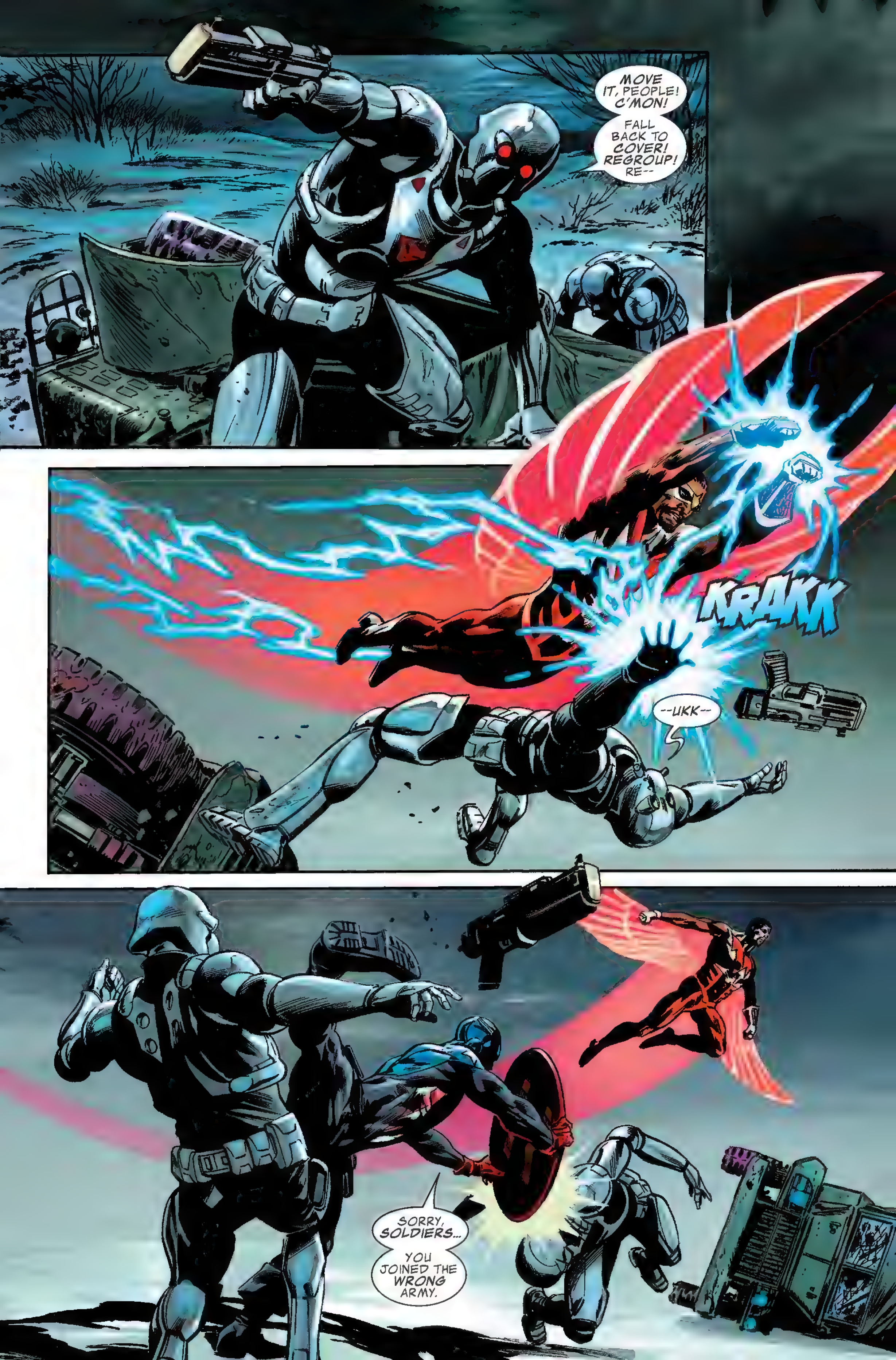

AND DON'T YOU WORRY...
...BUCKY'S PART OF THE PLAN NOW.
BRITISH COLUMBIA
CANADA
ALBERTA
MONTANA
Sandpoint
Libby
Whitefish
Columbia Falls
Kalispell
Cut Bank
Shelby
Conrad
Coeur d'Alene
Kellogg
Polson
Helena

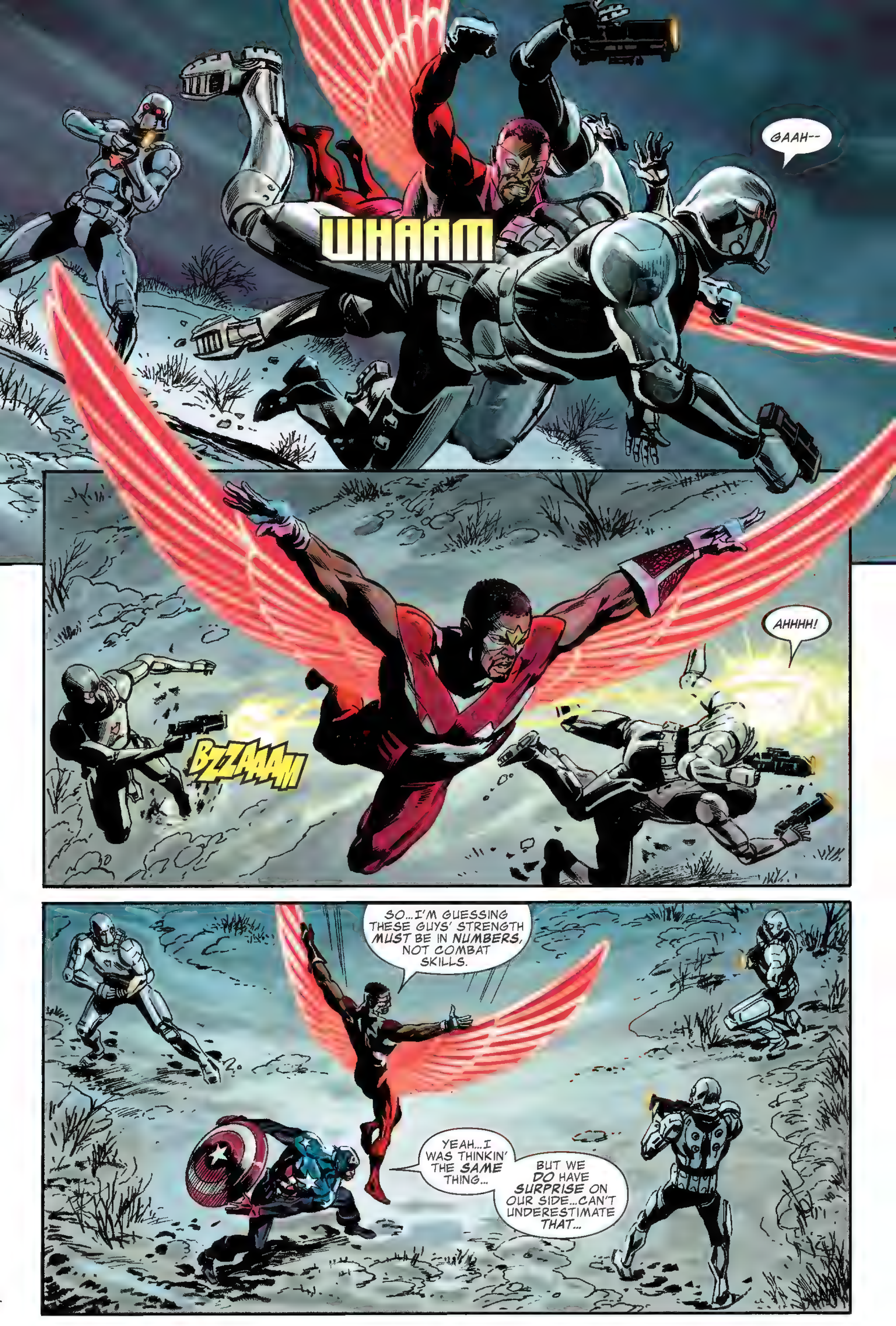
TWO AMERICAS

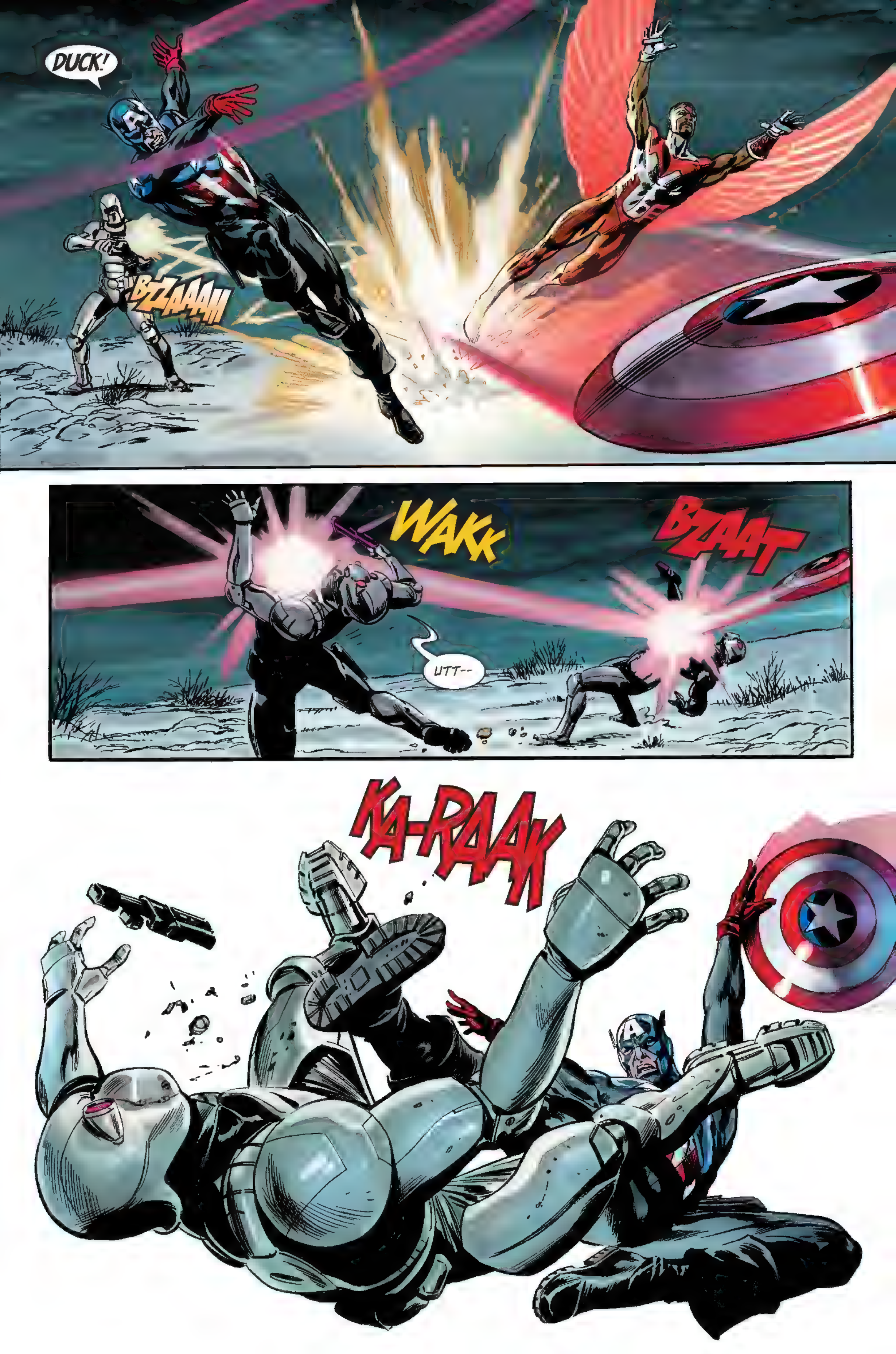
PART TWO OF FOUR

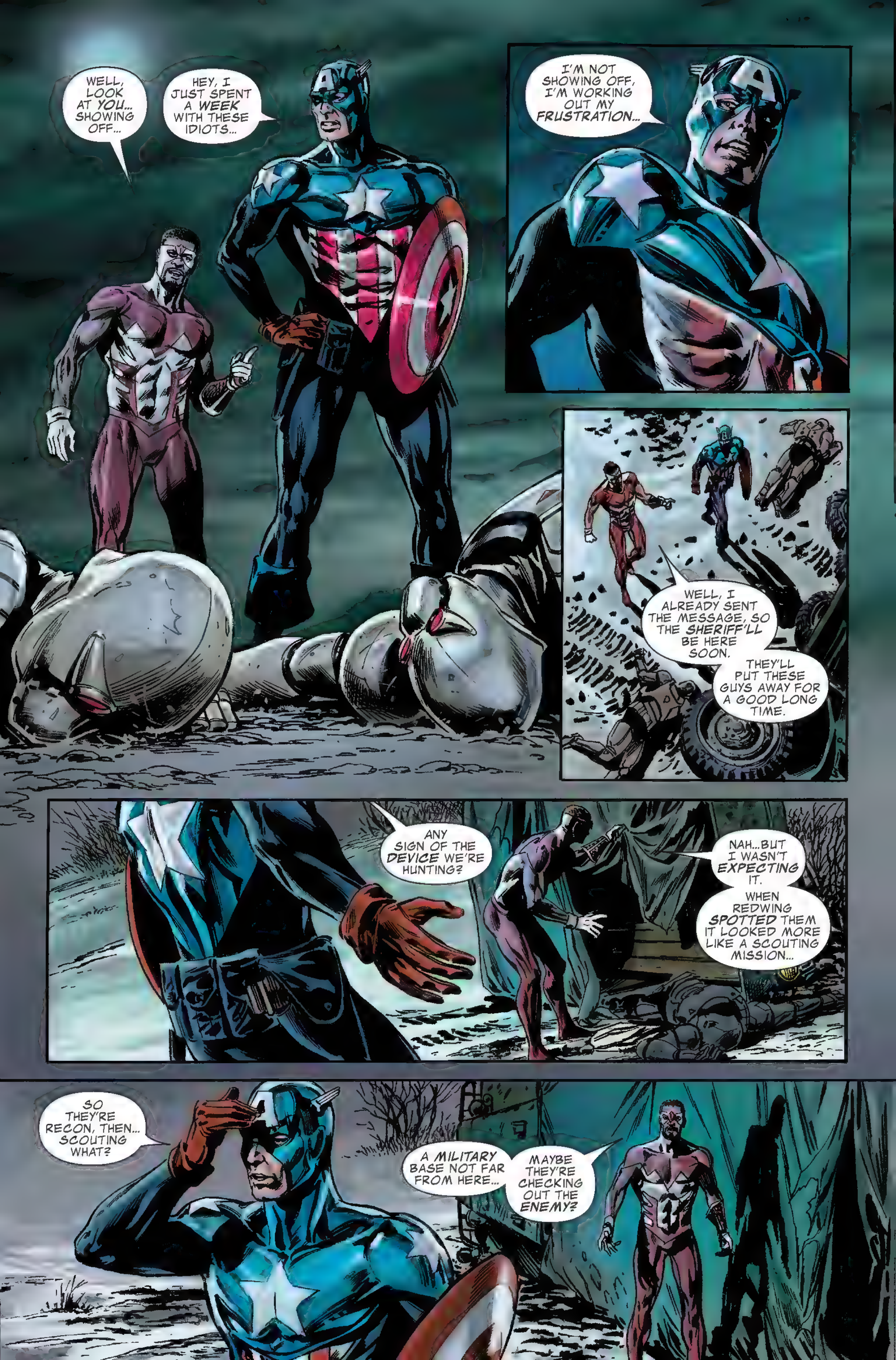

Ten Miles Outside Boise,
YOU READY, BUCK?
WHENEVER *YOU* ARE, SAM...
THEN, LET'S *DO* THIS...
WAA-HOO!
SIR, GOT A *BOGEY* ON THE RADAR--
WHAT IS IT? ANYONE GOT *EYES* ON IT?
OH #@$%--
INCOMING!

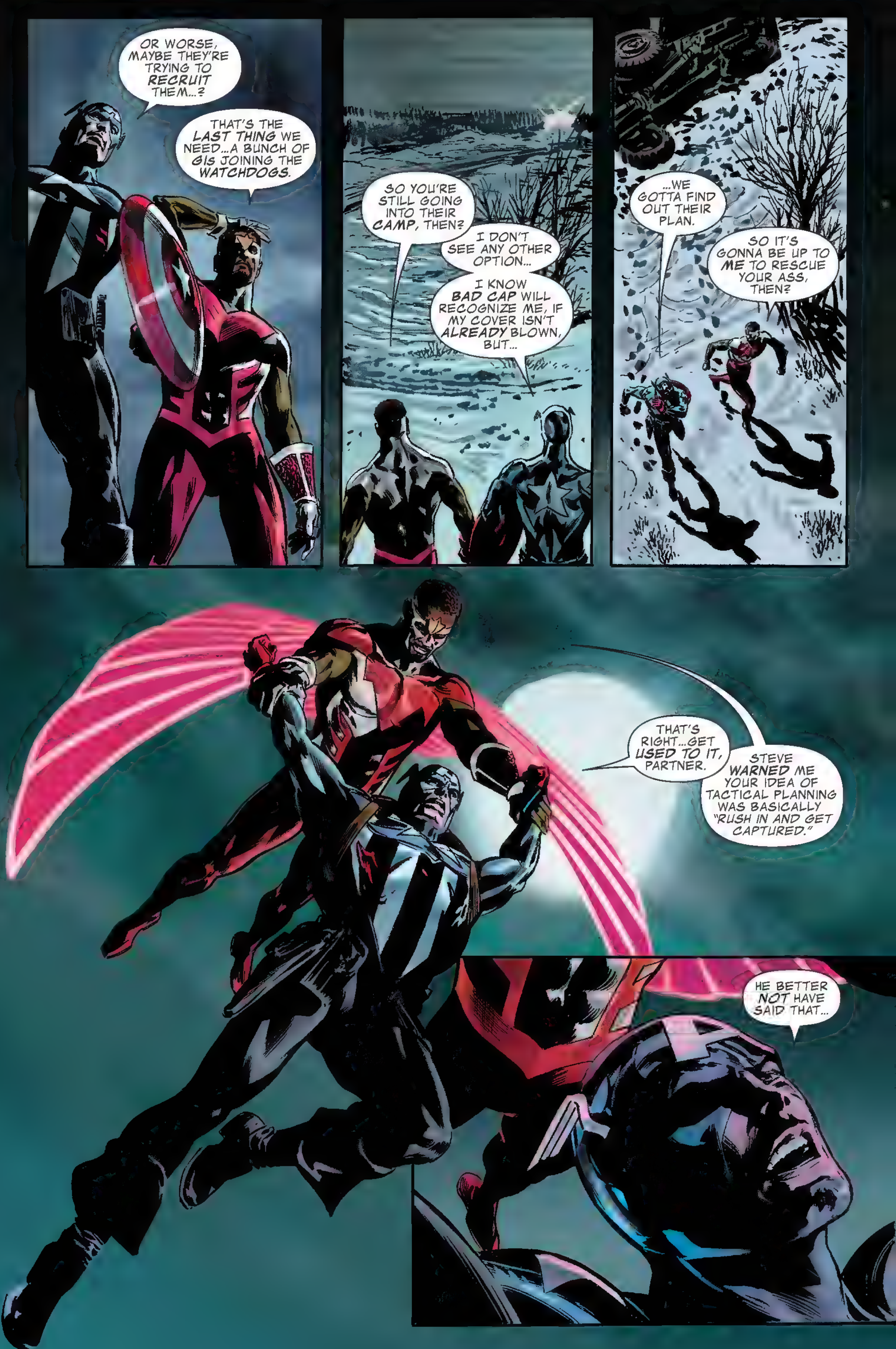

WHAAM
YAAAHH!

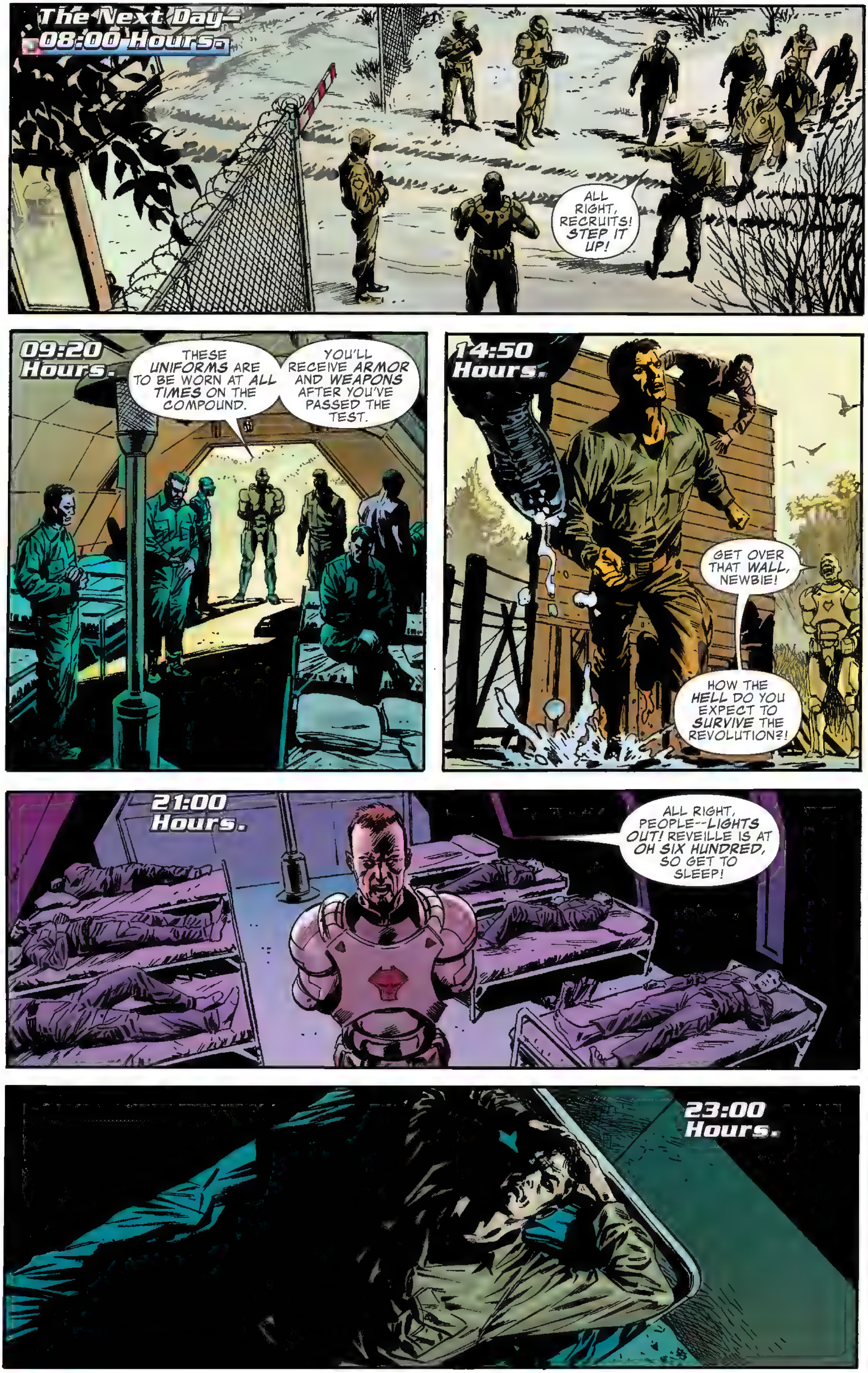

MOVE IT, PEOPLE! C'MON!
FALL BACK TO COVER! REGROUP! RE--
KRAKK
--UKK--
SORRY, SOLDIERS...
YOU JOINED THE WRONG ARMY.

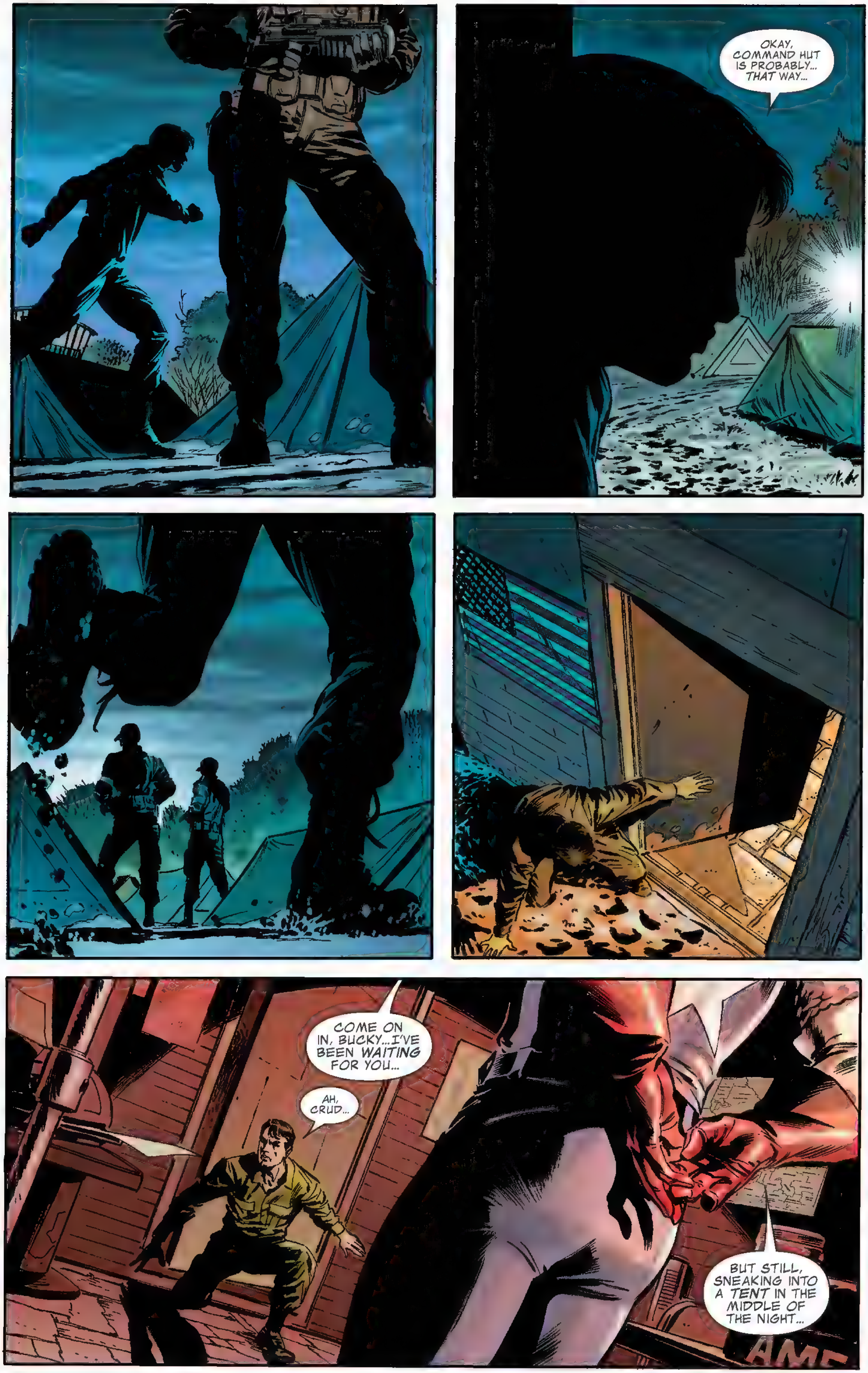

WHAAM
GAAH--
AHHHH!
BZZAAAM
SO...I'M GUESSING THESE GUYS' STRENGTH *MUST* BE IN *NUMBERS*, NOT COMBAT SKILLS.
YEAH...I WAS THINKIN' THE *SAME* THING...
BUT WE *DO* HAVE *SURPRISE* ON OUR SIDE...CAN'T UNDERESTIMATE THAT...

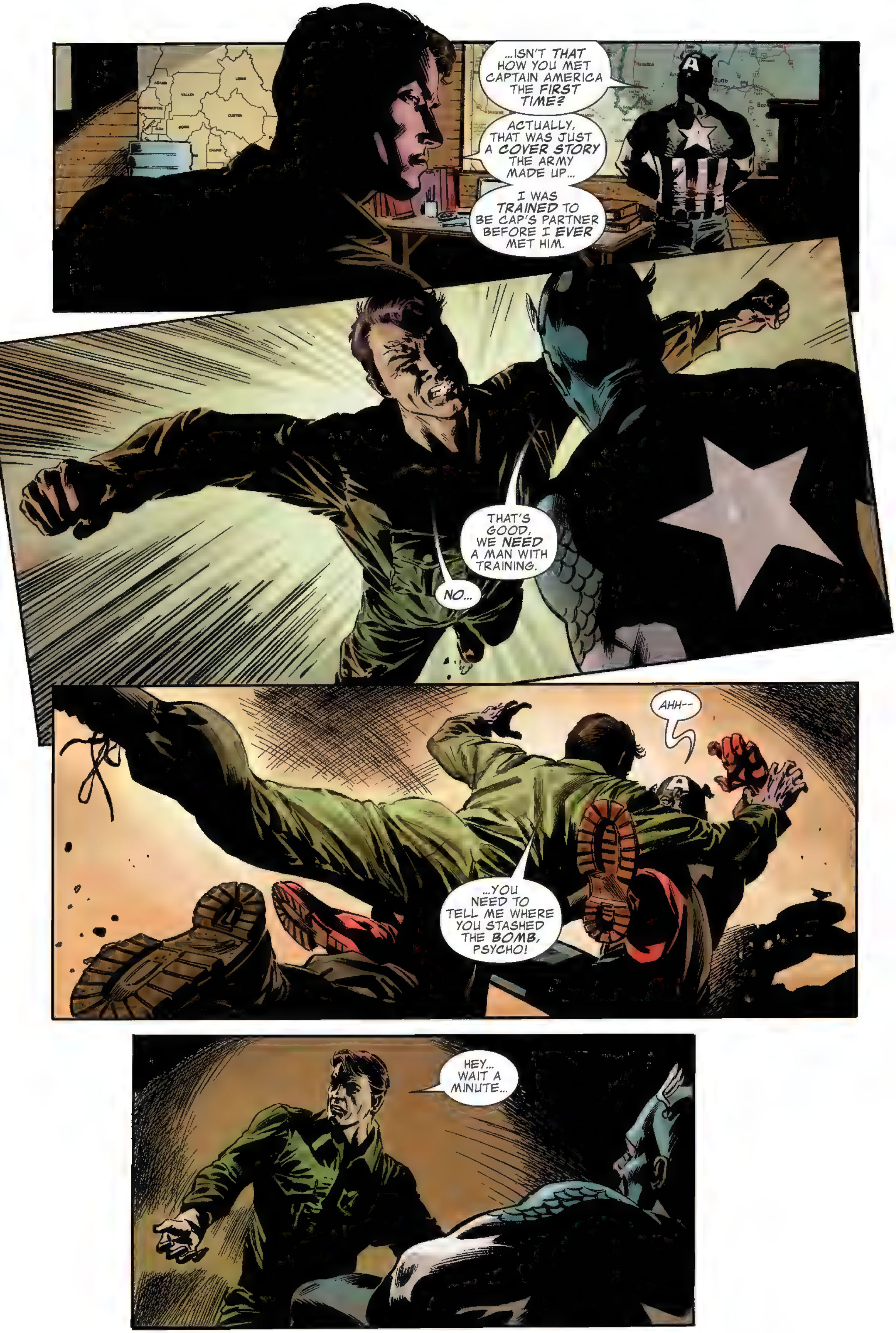

DUCK!
BZZAAAM
WAKK
BZAAT
UTT--
KA-RAAK

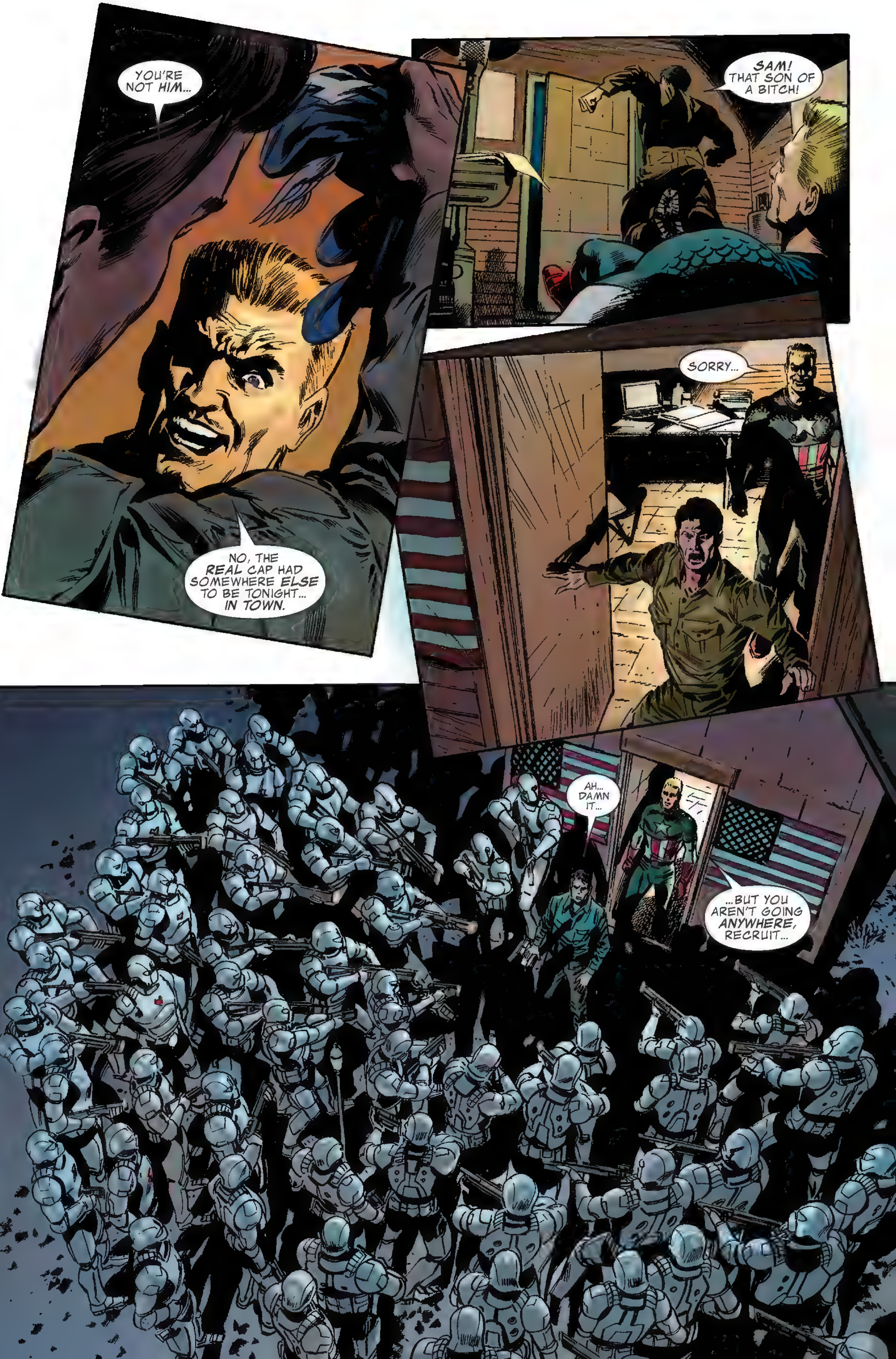

WELL, LOOK AT *YOU*... SHOWING OFF...
HEY, I JUST SPENT A *WEEK* WITH THESE IDIOTS...
I'M NOT SHOWING OFF, I'M WORKING OUT MY *FRUSTRATION*...
WELL, I ALREADY SENT THE MESSAGE, SO THE *SHERIFF'LL* BE HERE SOON.
THEY'LL PUT THESE GUYS AWAY FOR A GOOD LONG TIME.
ANY SIGN OF THE *DEVICE* WE'RE HUNTING?
NAH...BUT I WASN'T *EXPECTING* IT.
WHEN REDWING *SPOTTED* THEM IT LOOKED MORE LIKE A SCOUTING MISSION...
SO THEY'RE RECON, THEN... SCOUTING WHAT?
A *MILITARY* BASE NOT FAR FROM HERE...
MAYBE THEY'RE CHECKING OUT THE *ENEMY*?

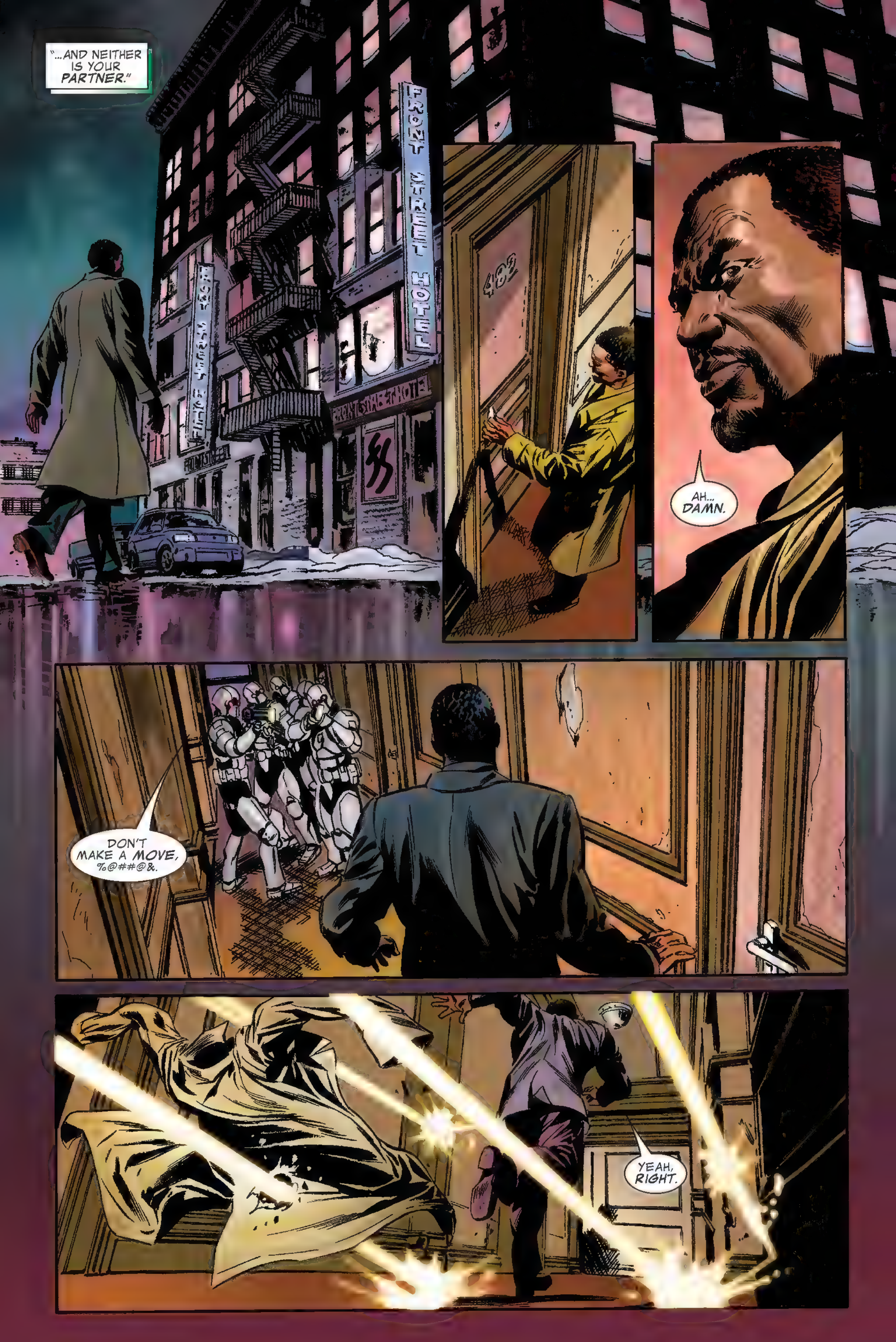

OR WORSE, MAYBE THEY'RE TRYING TO *RECRUIT* THEM...?
THAT'S THE *LAST THING* WE NEED...A BUNCH OF GIS JOINING THE *WATCHDOGS.*
SO YOU'RE STILL GOING INTO THEIR *CAMP,* THEN?
I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER OPTION...
I KNOW *BAD CAP* WILL RECOGNIZE ME, IF MY COVER ISN'T *ALREADY* BLOWN, BUT...
...WE GOTTA FIND OUT THEIR PLAN.
SO IT'S GONNA BE UP TO *ME* TO RESCUE YOUR ASS, THEN?
THAT'S RIGHT...GET *USED TO IT,* PARTNER.
STEVE *WARNED* ME YOUR IDEA OF TACTICAL PLANNING WAS BASICALLY *"RUSH IN AND GET CAPTURED."*
HE BETTER *NOT* HAVE SAID THAT...

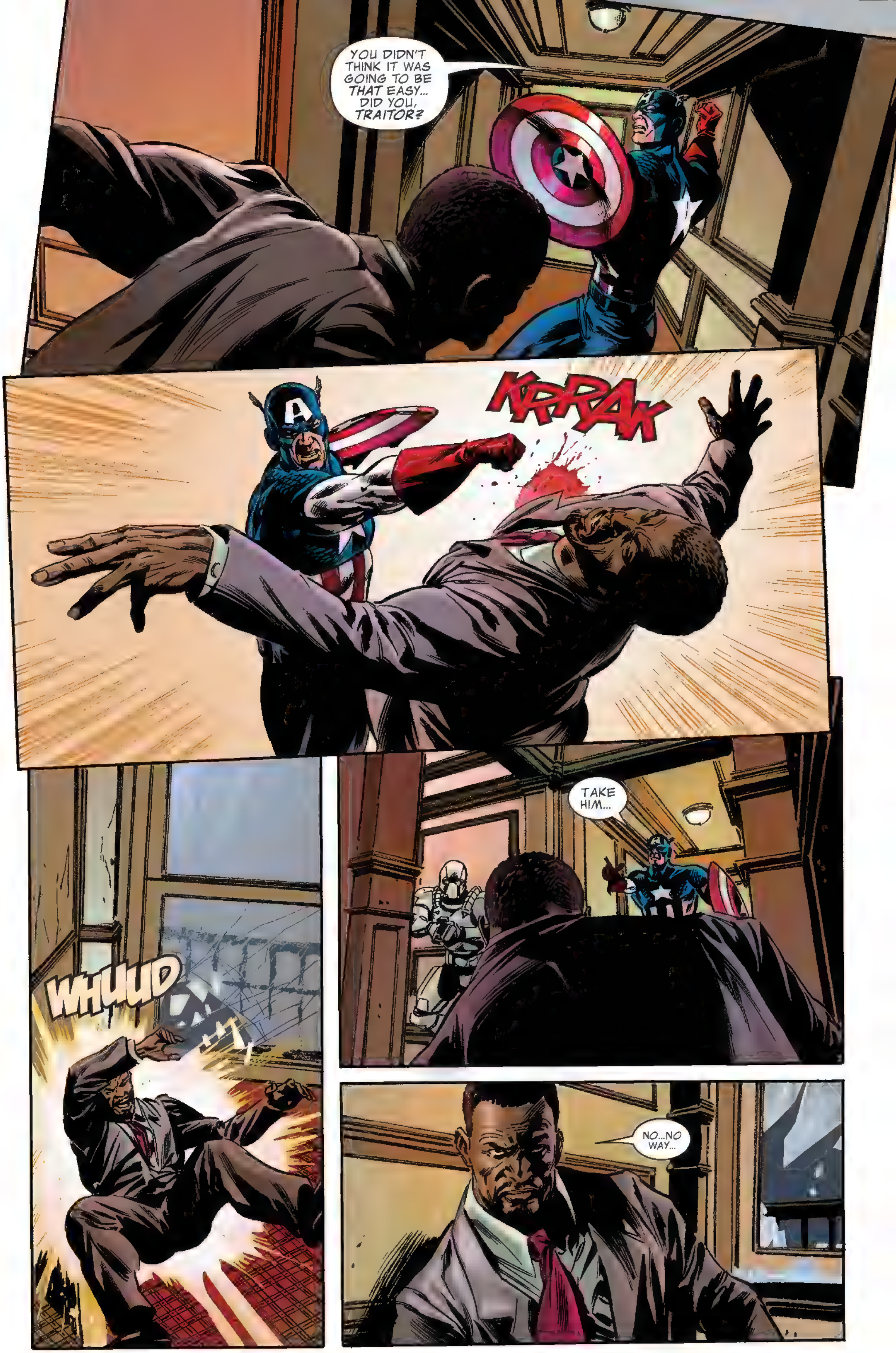

The Next Day— 08:00 Hours.
ALL RIGHT, RECRUITS! STEP IT UP!
09:20 Hours.
THESE UNIFORMS ARE TO BE WORN AT ALL TIMES ON THE COMPOUND.
YOU'LL RECEIVE ARMOR AND WEAPONS AFTER YOU'VE PASSED THE TEST.
14:50 Hours.
GET OVER THAT WALL, NEWBIE!
HOW THE HELL DO YOU EXPECT TO SURVIVE THE REVOLUTION?!
21:00 Hours.
ALL RIGHT, PEOPLE--LIGHTS OUT! REVEILLE IS AT OH SIX HUNDRED, SO GET TO SLEEP!
23:00 Hours.

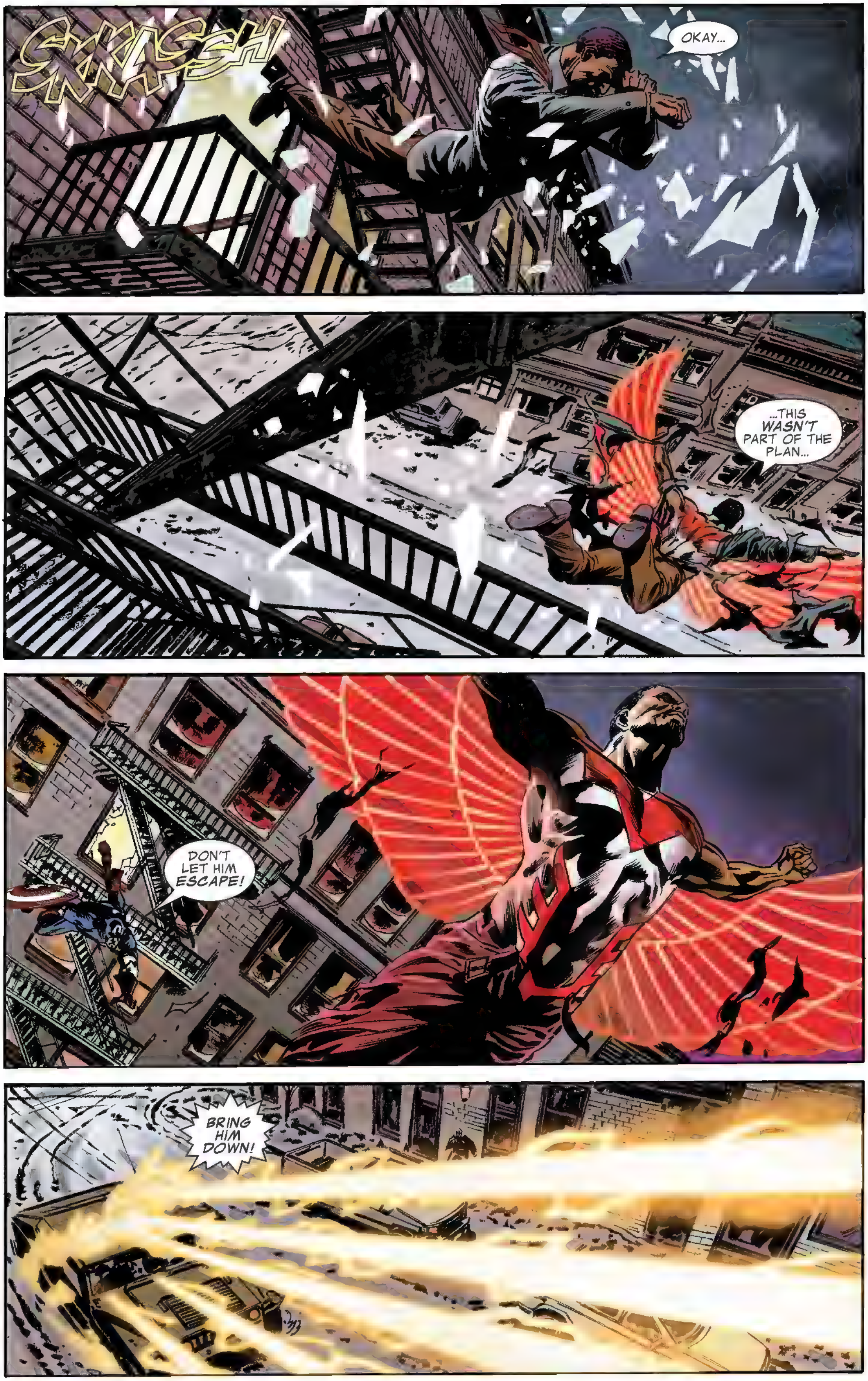

OKAY, COMMAND HUT IS PROBABLY... *THAT* WAY...
COME ON IN, BUCKY...I'VE BEEN *WAITING* FOR YOU...
AH, CRUD...
BUT STILL, SNEAKING INTO A *TENT* IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT...
AME

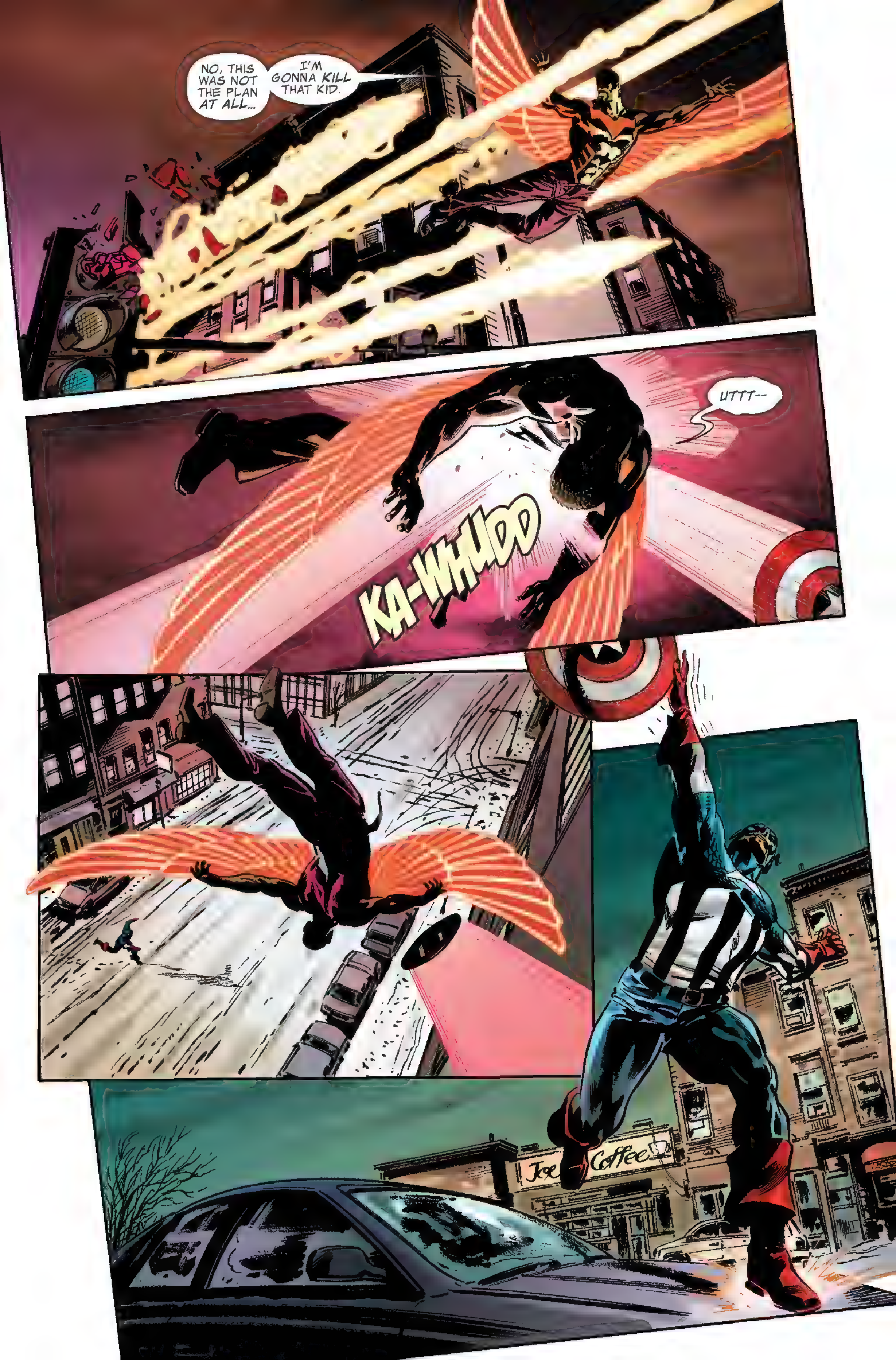

...ISN'T THAT HOW YOU MET CAPTAIN AMERICA THE FIRST TIME?
ACTUALLY, THAT WAS JUST A COVER STORY THE ARMY MADE UP...
I WAS TRAINED TO BE CAP'S PARTNER BEFORE I EVER MET HIM.
THAT'S GOOD, WE NEED A MAN WITH TRAINING.
NO...
AHH--
...YOU NEED TO TELL ME WHERE YOU STASHED THE BOMB, PSYCHO!
HEY... WAIT A MINUTE...

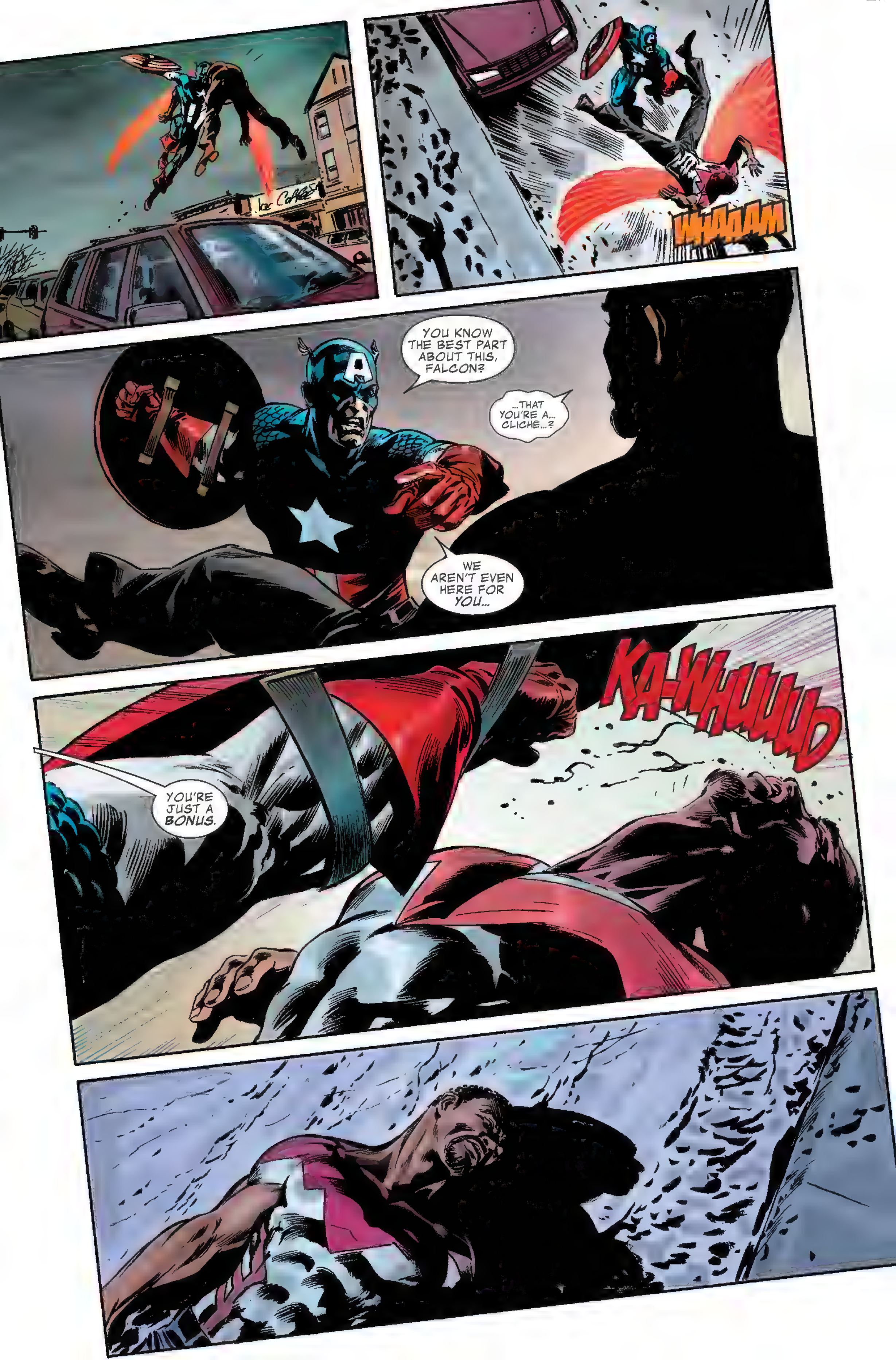

YOU'RE NOT *HIM*...
NO, THE ***REAL*** CAP HAD SOMEWHERE ***ELSE*** TO BE TONIGHT... ***IN TOWN.***
SAM! THAT SON OF A BITCH!
SORRY...
AH... DAMN IT...
...BUT YOU AREN'T GOING ***ANYWHERE,*** RECRUIT...

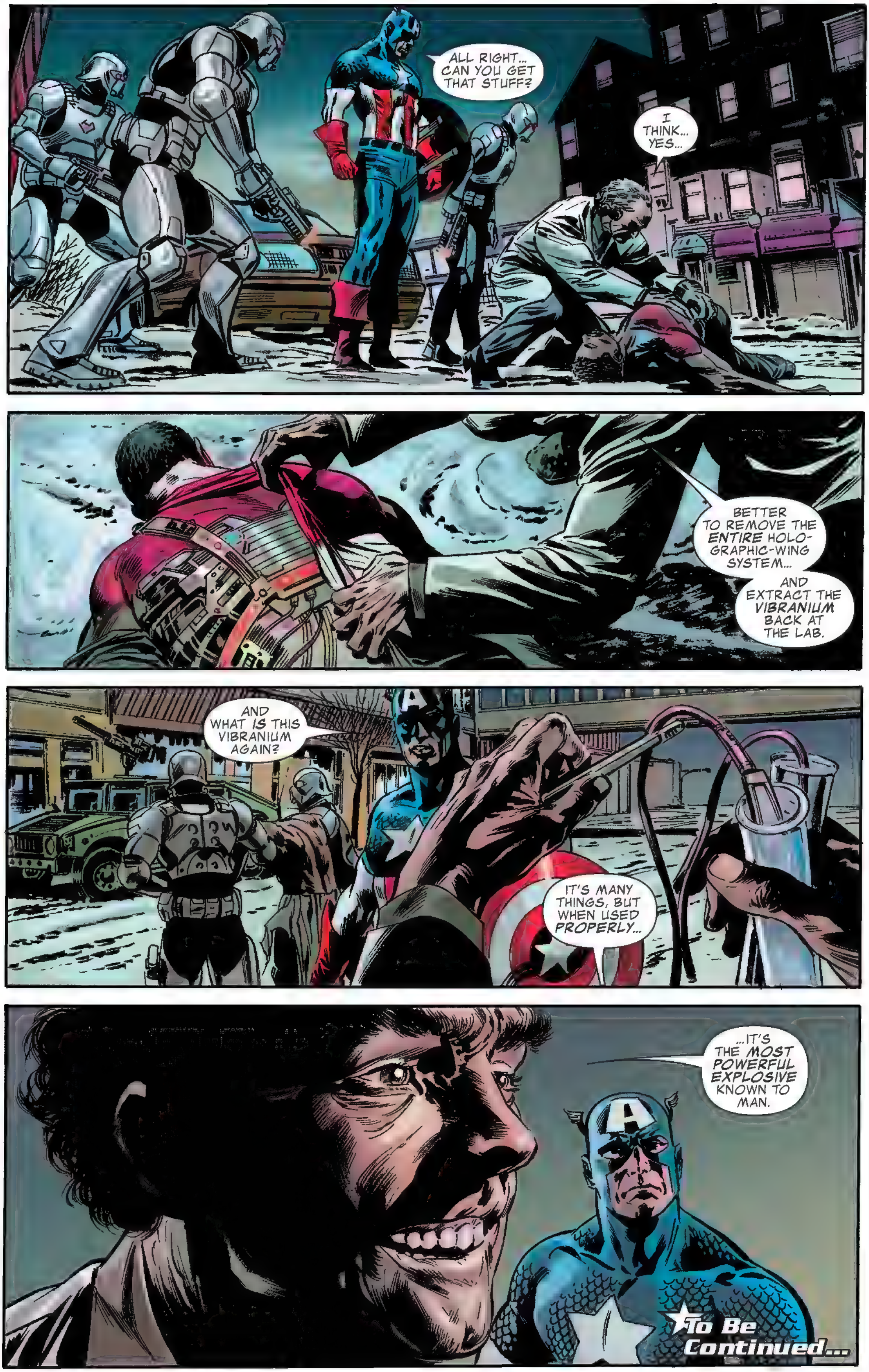

"...AND NEITHER IS YOUR PARTNER."
FRONT STREET HOTEL
FRONT STREET HOTEL
402
AH... DAMN.
DON'T MAKE A *MOVE*, %@##@&.
YEAH, RIGHT.


YOU DIDN'T THINK IT WAS GOING TO BE THAT EASY... DID YOU, TRAITOR?
KRRAK
WHUUD
TAKE HIM...
NO...NO WAY...


CHRASSH
OKAY...
...THIS *WASN'T* PART OF THE PLAN...
DON'T LET HIM *ESCAPE!*
BRING HIM *DOWN!*


NO, THIS WAS NOT THE PLAN AT ALL...
I'M GONNA KILL THAT KID.
UTTT--
KA-WHUDD
Joe Coffee


WHAAAM
YOU KNOW THE BEST PART ABOUT THIS, FALCON?
...THAT YOU'RE A... CLICHE...?
WE AREN'T EVEN HERE FOR YOU...
KA-WHUUUD
YOU'RE JUST A BONUS.


ALL RIGHT... CAN YOU GET THAT STUFF?
I THINK... YES...
BETTER TO REMOVE THE *ENTIRE* HOLOGRAPHIC-WING SYSTEM...
AND EXTRACT THE *VIBRANIUM* BACK AT THE LAB.
AND WHAT *IS* THIS VIBRANIUM AGAIN?
IT'S MANY THINGS, BUT WHEN USED *PROPERLY*...
...IT'S THE *MOST POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE* KNOWN TO MAN.
To Be Continued...

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BRUBAKER
ROSS
GUICE
WHITE

CAPTAIN AMERICA

ALSO FEATURING

NOMAD

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CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the man who was Captain America, Cap's former partner during World War II, James "Bucky" Barnes, has taken on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

During the 1950s, while the original Cap was in suspended animation, another Captain America was created. While a nearly perfect physical match for Steve Rogers, this new and recently revived Cap became severely mentally unstable and now leads an army whose purpose is to "reclaim" America.

Bucky, with the assistance of Sam Wilson, aka the Falcon, infiltrated the Watchdogs, the paramilitary anti-government ring, in hopes of apprehending the rogue Captain America. The plan backfired and now both Bucky and the Falcon have been captured themselves.

TWO AMERICAS Part 3

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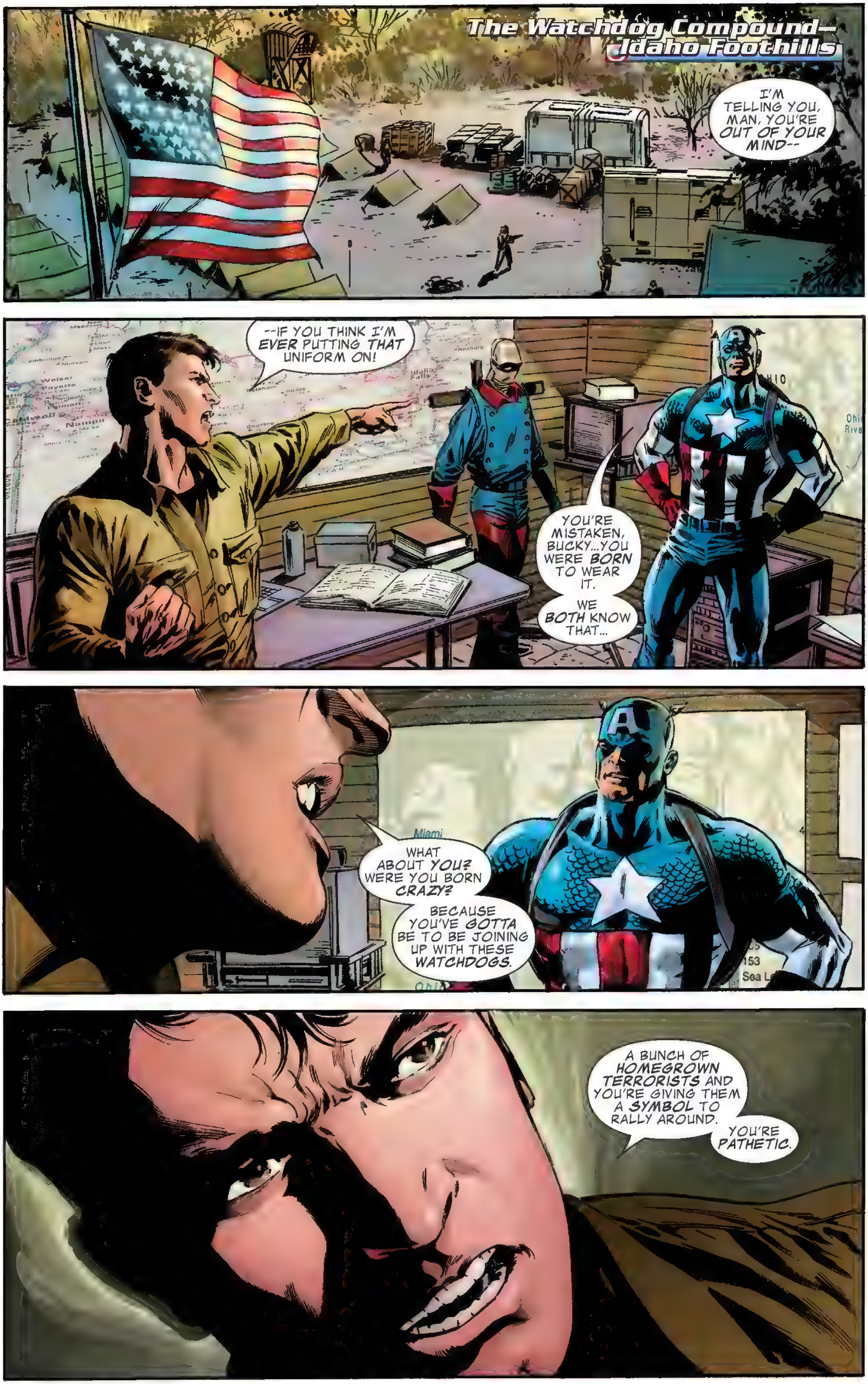
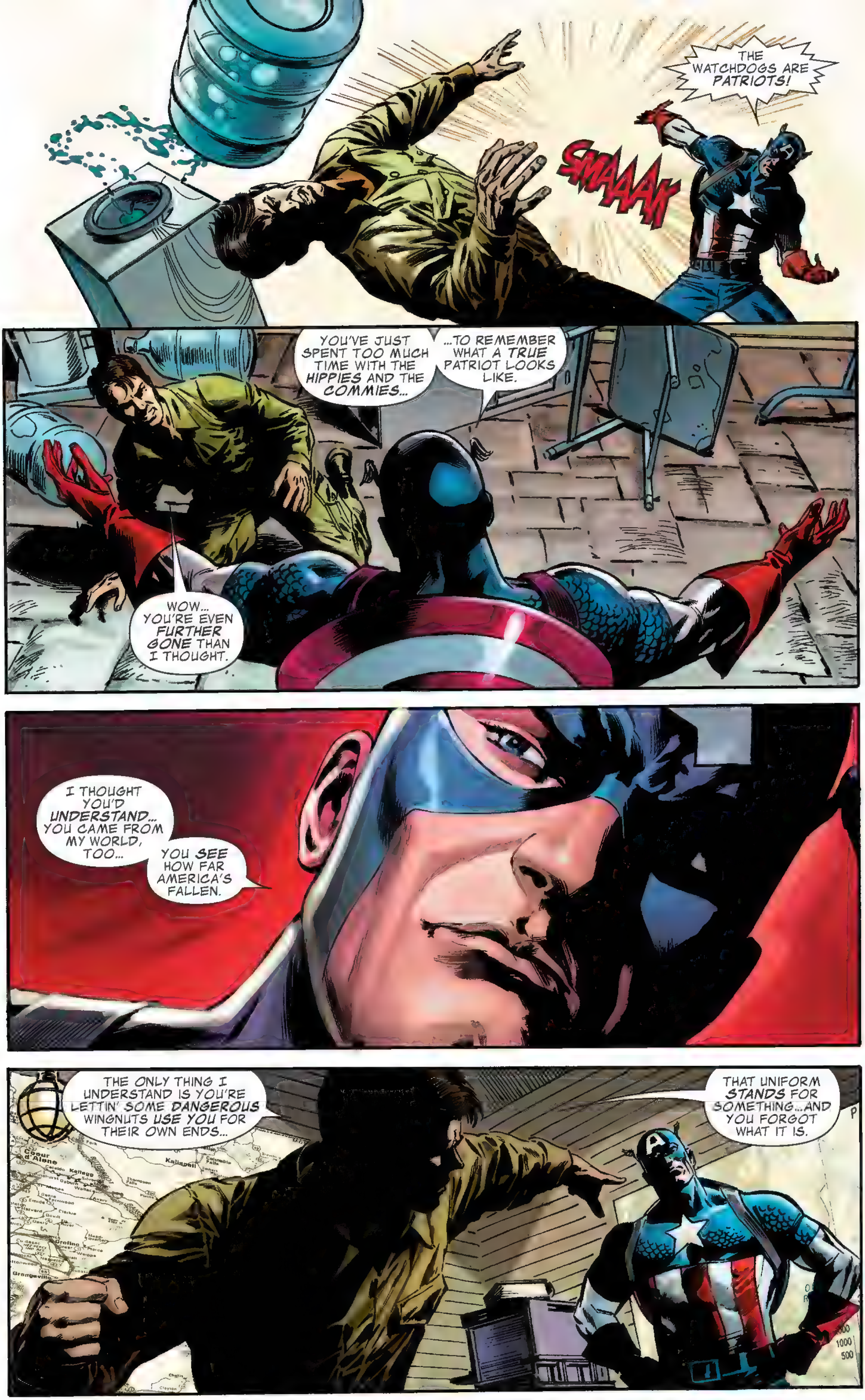
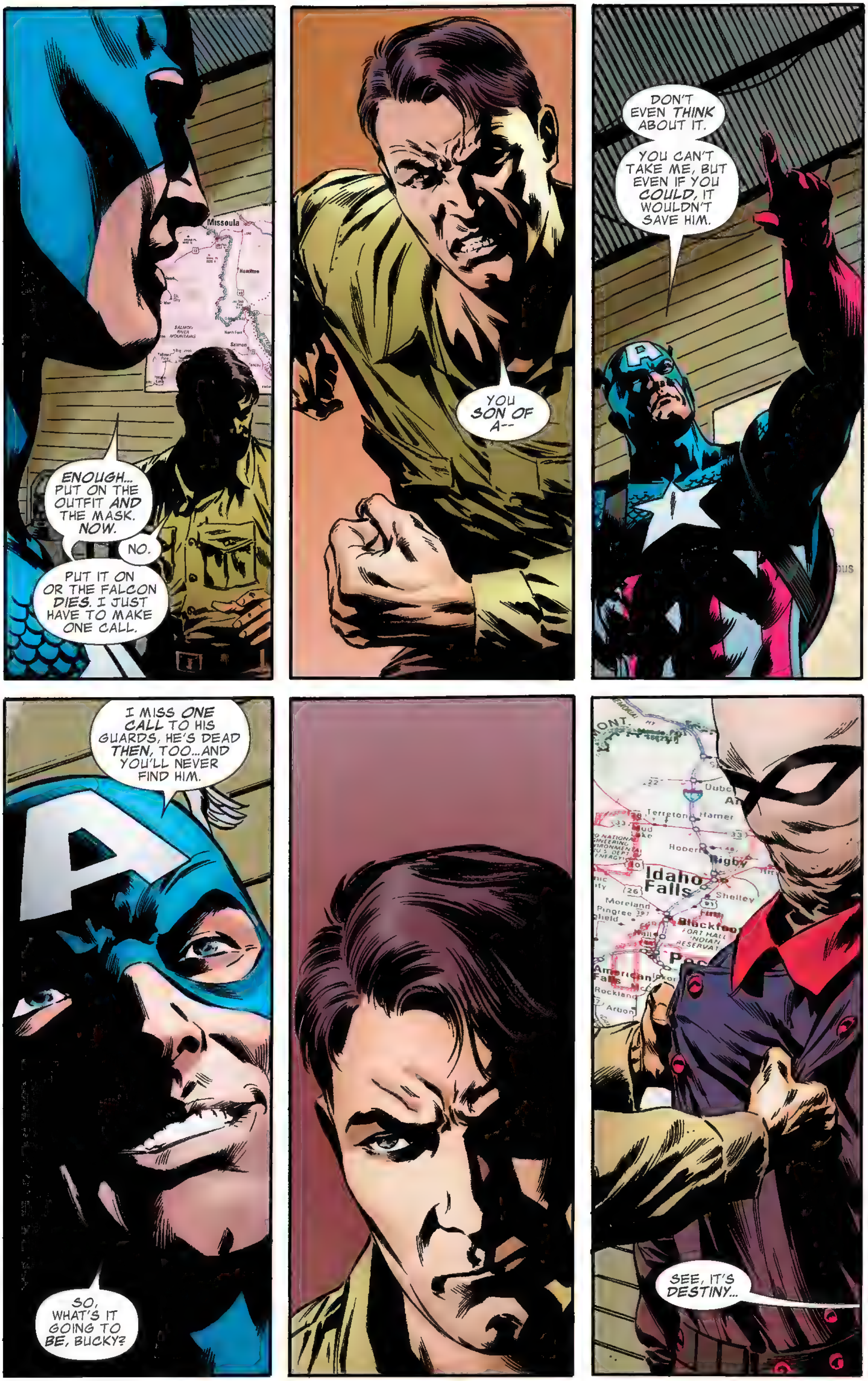
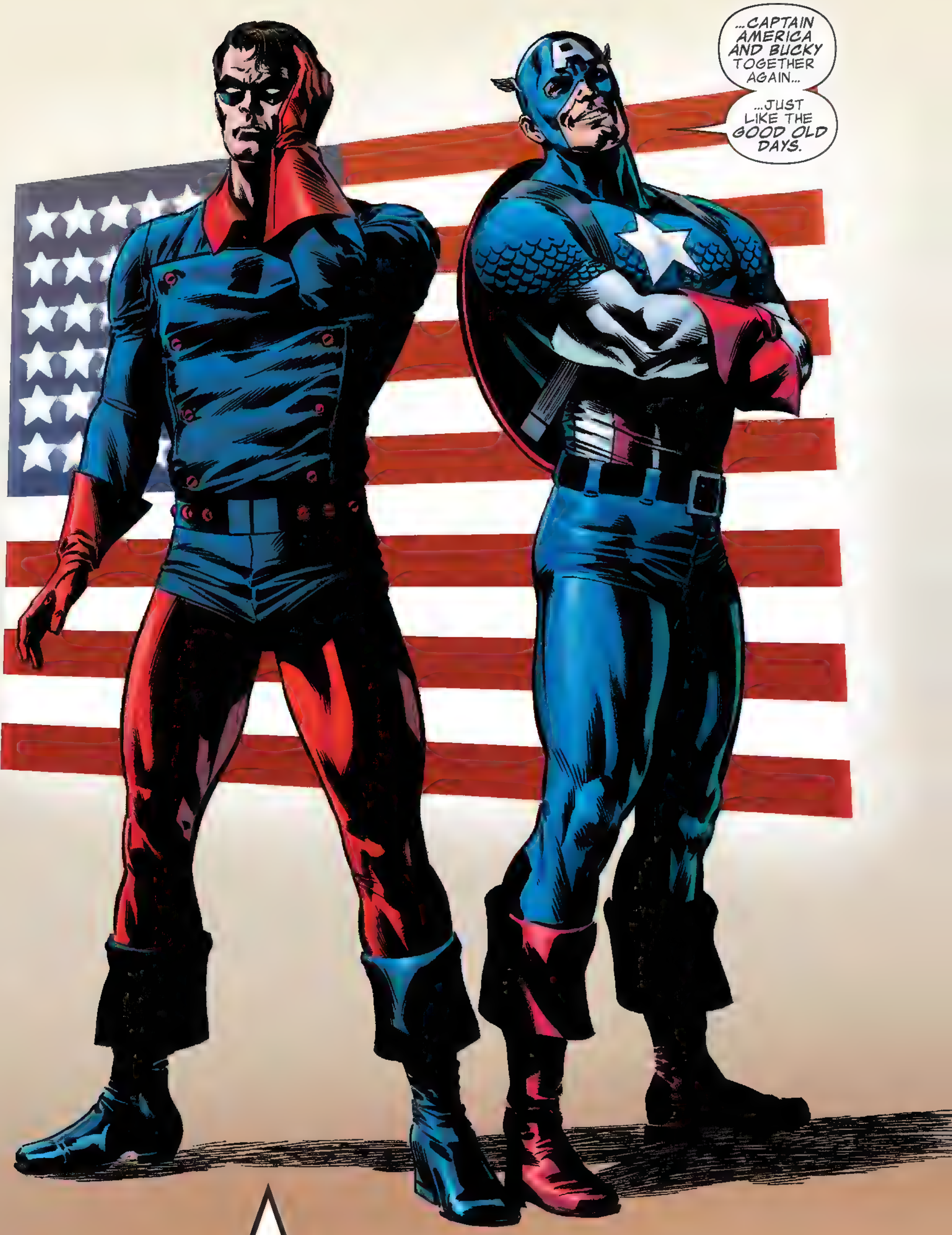

The Watchdog Compound— Idaho Foothills
I'M TELLING YOU, MAN, YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND--
--IF YOU THINK I'M EVER PUTTING THAT UNIFORM ON!
YOU'RE MISTAKEN, BUCKY...YOU WERE BORN TO WEAR IT.
WE BOTH KNOW THAT...
WHAT ABOUT YOU? WERE YOU BORN CRAZY?
BECAUSE YOU'VE GOTTA BE TO BE JOINING UP WITH THESE WATCHDOGS.
A BUNCH OF HOMEGROWN TERRORISTS AND YOU'RE GIVING THEM A SYMBOL TO RALLY AROUND.
YOU'RE PATHETIC.

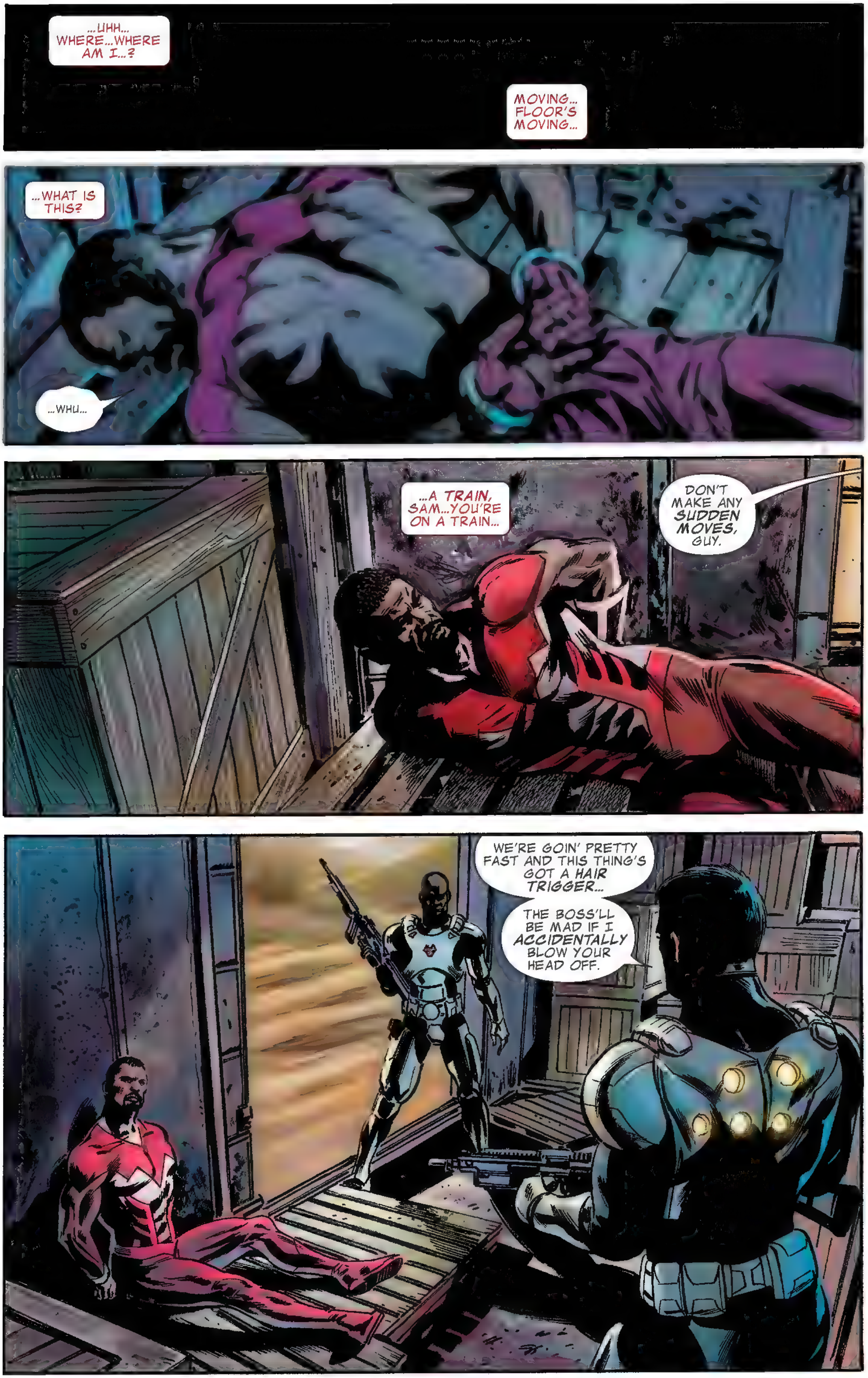

THE WATCHDOGS ARE PATRIOTS!
SMAAAK
YOU'VE JUST SPENT TOO MUCH TIME WITH THE HIPPIES AND THE COMMIES...
...TO REMEMBER WHAT A TRUE PATRIOT LOOKS LIKE.
WOW... YOU'RE EVEN FURTHER GONE THAN I THOUGHT.
I THOUGHT YOU'D UNDERSTAND... YOU CAME FROM MY WORLD, TOO...
YOU SEE HOW FAR AMERICA'S FALLEN.
THE ONLY THING I UNDERSTAND IS YOU'RE LETTIN' SOME DANGEROUS WINGNUTS USE YOU FOR THEIR OWN ENDS...
THAT UNIFORM STANDS FOR SOMETHING...AND YOU FORGOT WHAT IT IS.

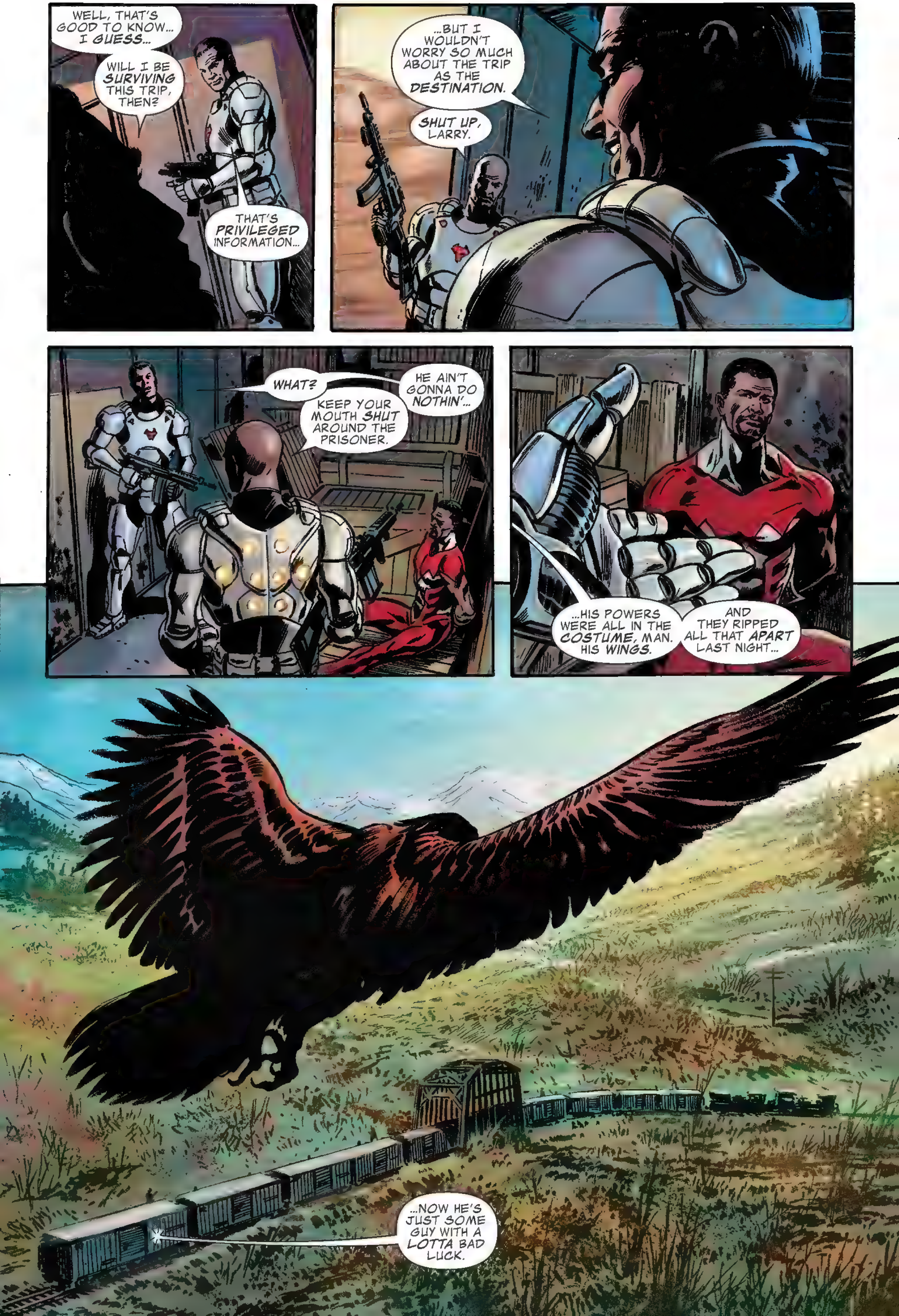

ENOUGH... PUT ON THE OUTFIT AND THE MASK. NOW.
NO.
PUT IT ON OR THE FALCON DIES. I JUST HAVE TO MAKE ONE CALL.
YOU SON OF A--
DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT.
YOU CAN'T TAKE ME, BUT EVEN IF YOU COULD, IT WOULDN'T SAVE HIM.
I MISS ONE CALL TO HIS GUARDS, HE'S DEAD THEN, TOO...AND YOU'LL NEVER FIND HIM.
SO, WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE, BUCKY?
SEE, IT'S DESTINY...

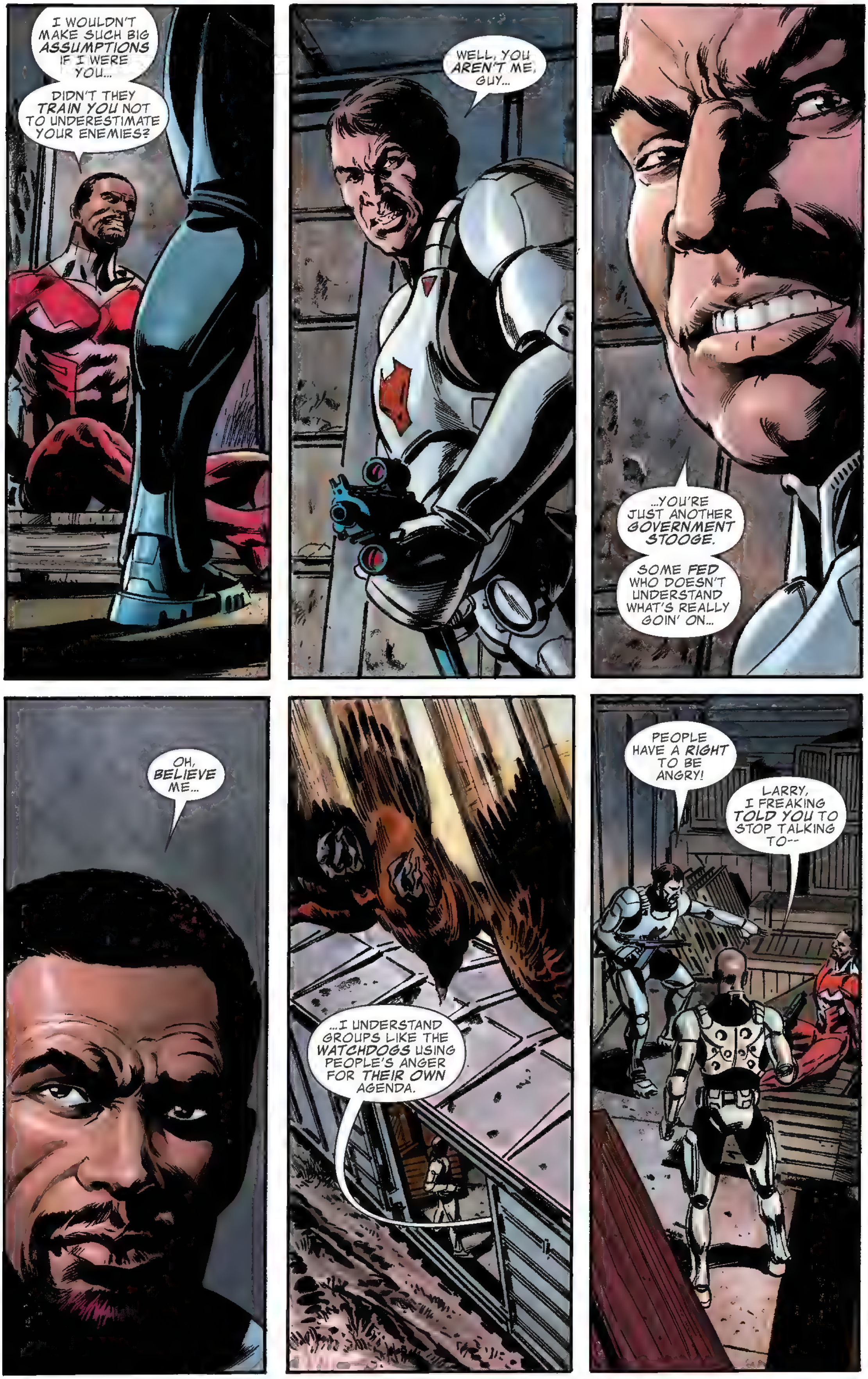

...CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY TOGETHER AGAIN...
...JUST LIKE THE GOOD OLD DAYS.

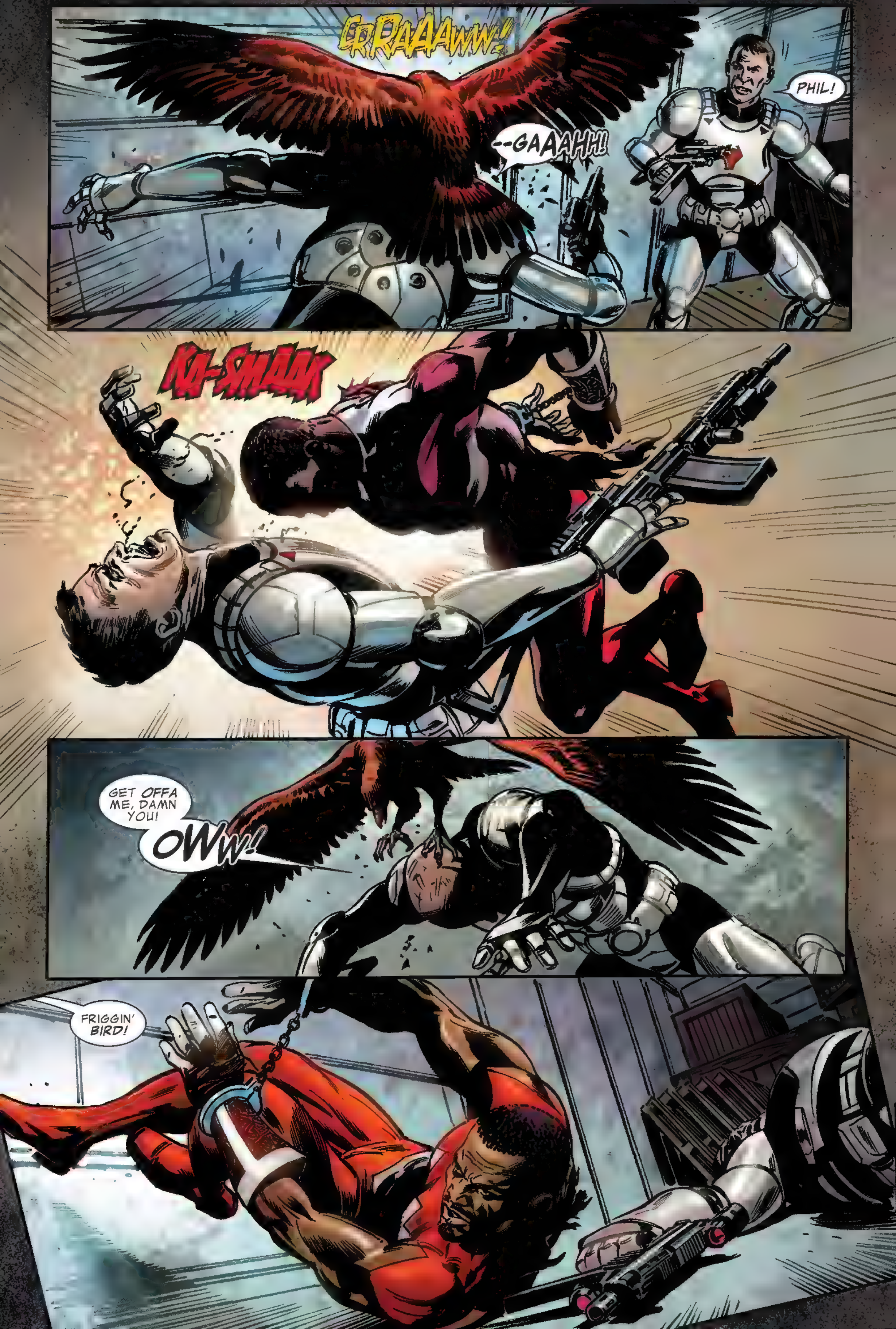
TWO AMERICAS

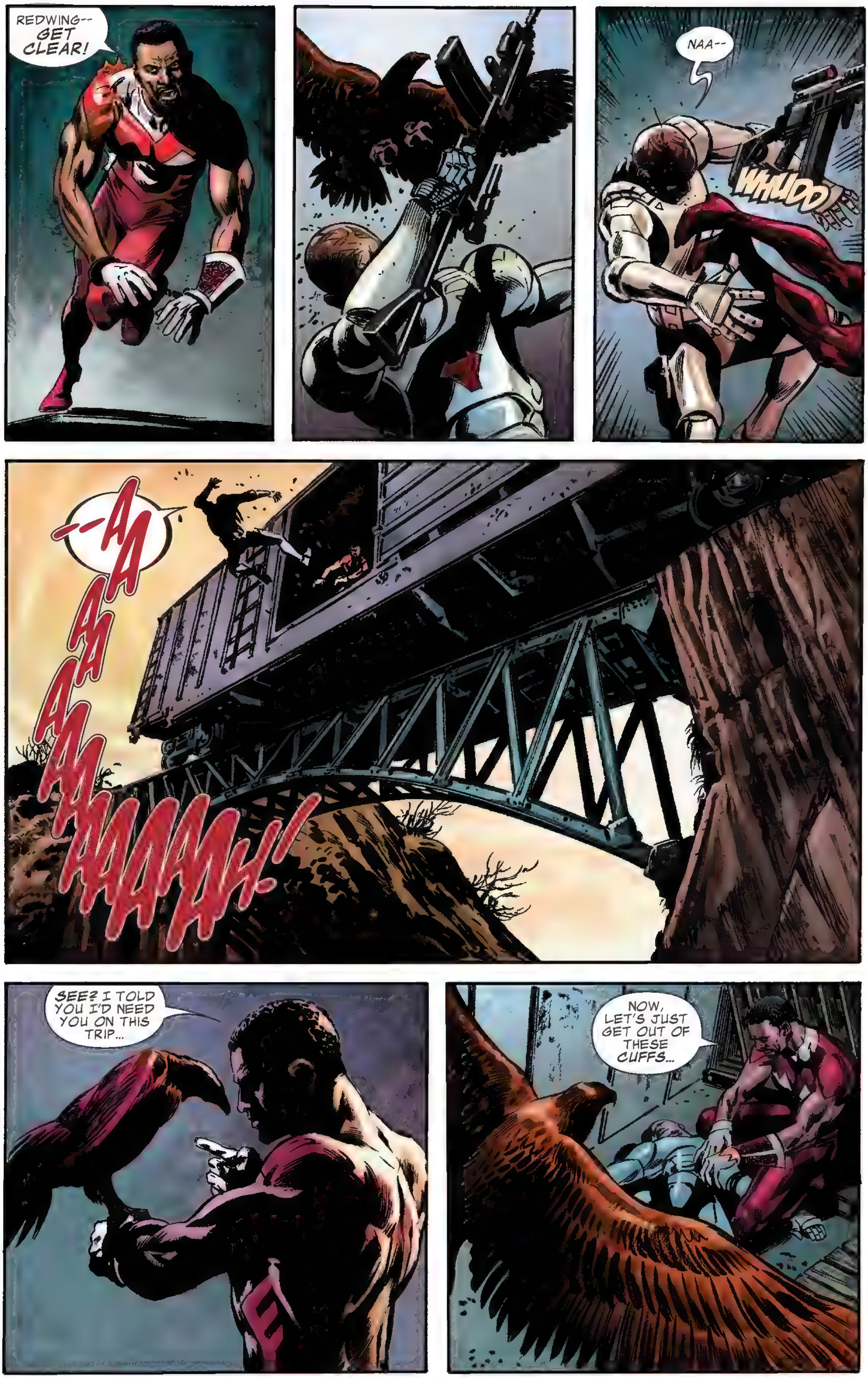
PART THREE OF FOUR

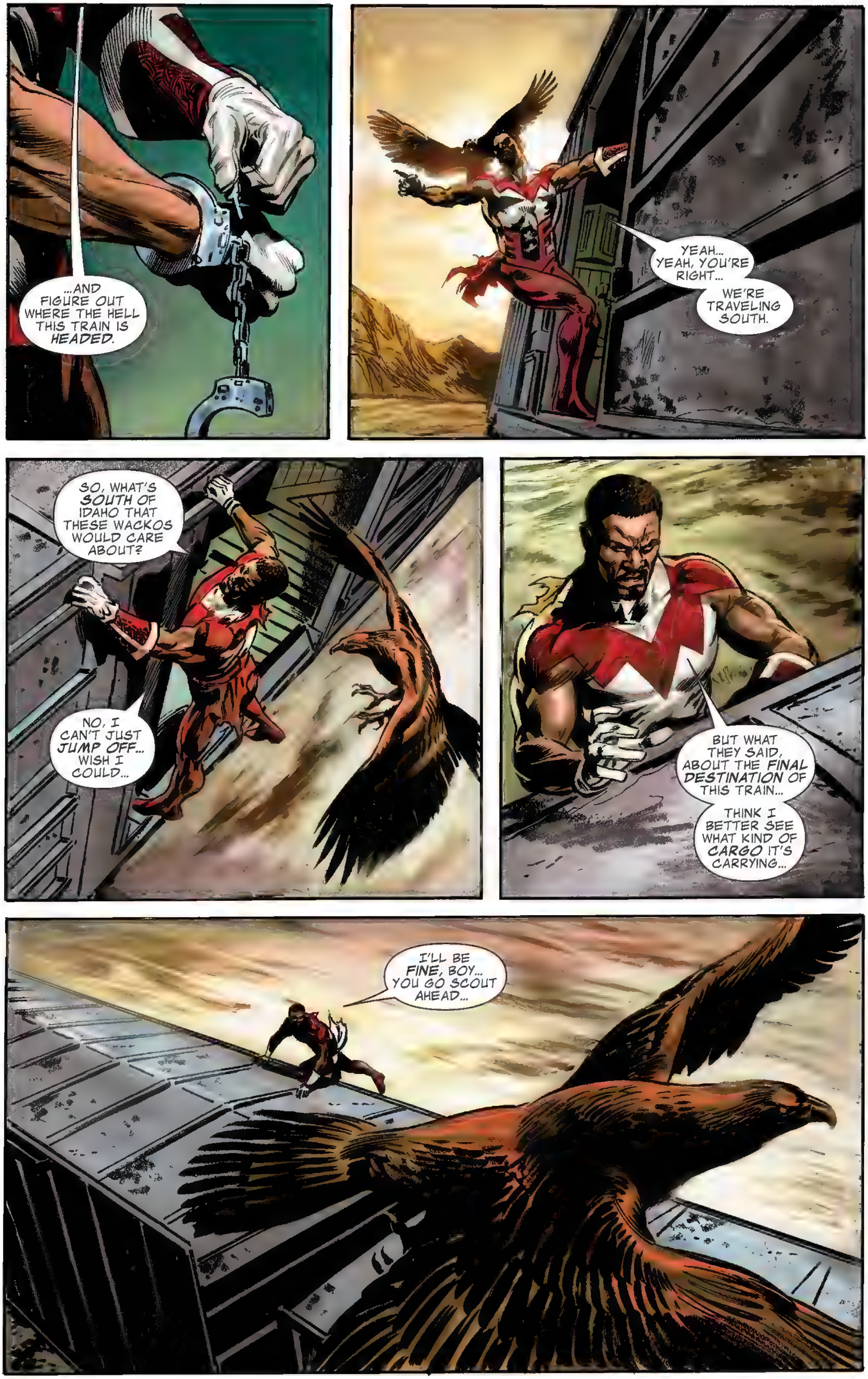

...UHH... WHERE...WHERE AM I...?
MOVING... FLOOR'S MOVING...
...WHAT IS THIS?
...WHU...
...A TRAIN, SAM...YOU'RE ON A TRAIN...
DON'T MAKE ANY SUDDEN MOVES, GUY.
WE'RE GOIN' PRETTY FAST AND THIS THING'S GOT A HAIR TRIGGER...
THE BOSS'LL BE MAD IF I ACCIDENTALLY BLOW YOUR HEAD OFF.

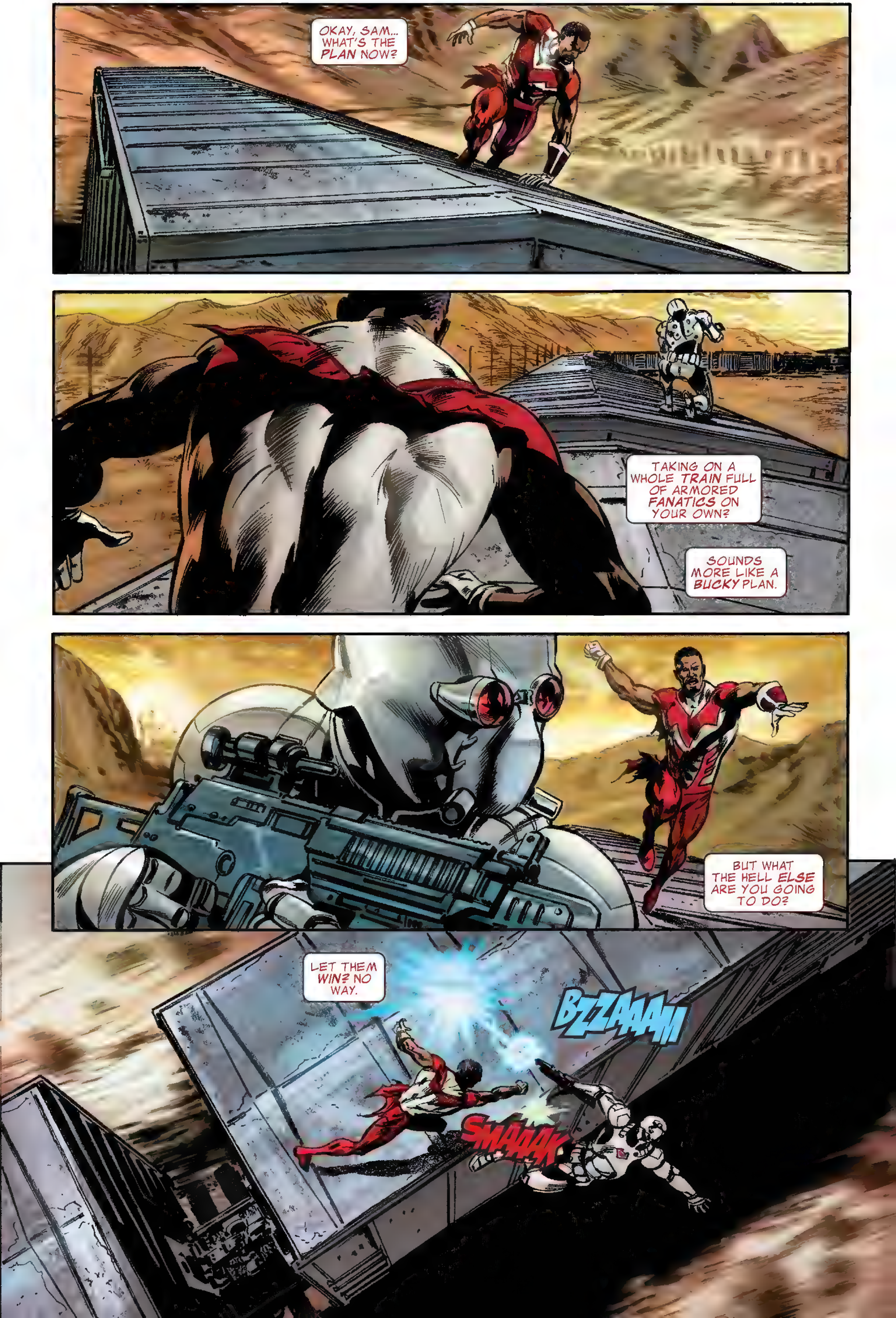

WELL, THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW... I GUESS...
WILL I BE SURVIVING THIS TRIP, THEN?
THAT'S PRIVILEGED INFORMATION...
...BUT I WOULDN'T WORRY SO MUCH ABOUT THE TRIP AS THE DESTINATION.
SHUT UP, LARRY.
WHAT?
HE AIN'T GONNA DO NOTHIN'...
KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT AROUND THE PRISONER.
...HIS POWERS WERE ALL IN THE COSTUME, MAN. HIS WINGS.
AND THEY RIPPED ALL THAT APART LAST NIGHT...
...NOW HE'S JUST SOME GUY WITH A LOTTA BAD LUCK.

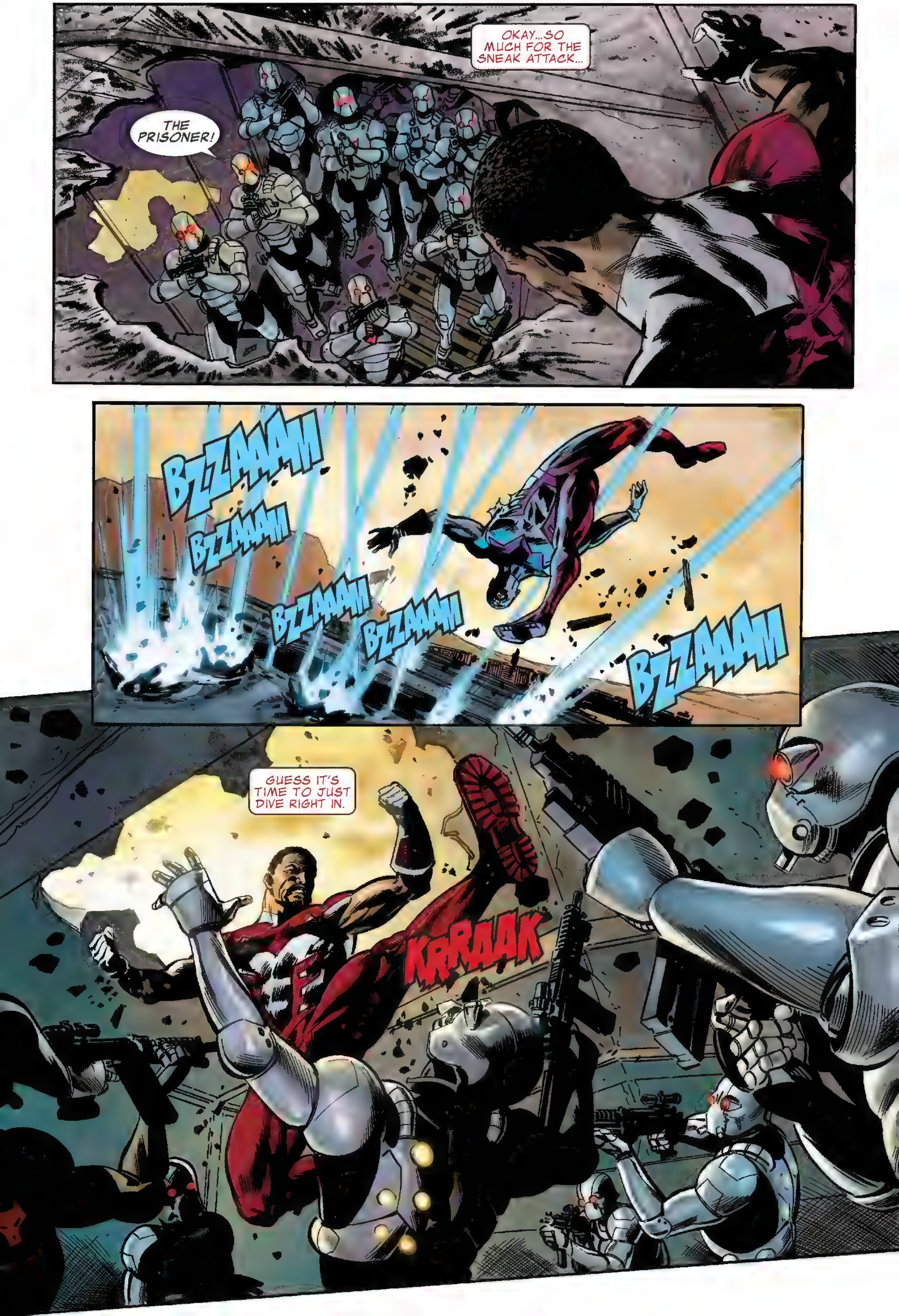

I WOULDN'T MAKE SUCH BIG ASSUMPTIONS IF I WERE YOU...
DIDN'T THEY TRAIN YOU NOT TO UNDERESTIMATE YOUR ENEMIES?
WELL, YOU AREN'T ME, GUY...
...YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER GOVERNMENT STOOGE.
SOME FED WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S REALLY GOIN' ON...
OH, BELIEVE ME...
...I UNDERSTAND GROUPS LIKE THE WATCHDOGS USING PEOPLE'S ANGER FOR THEIR OWN AGENDA.
PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO BE ANGRY!
LARRY, I FREAKING TOLD YOU TO STOP TALKING TO--

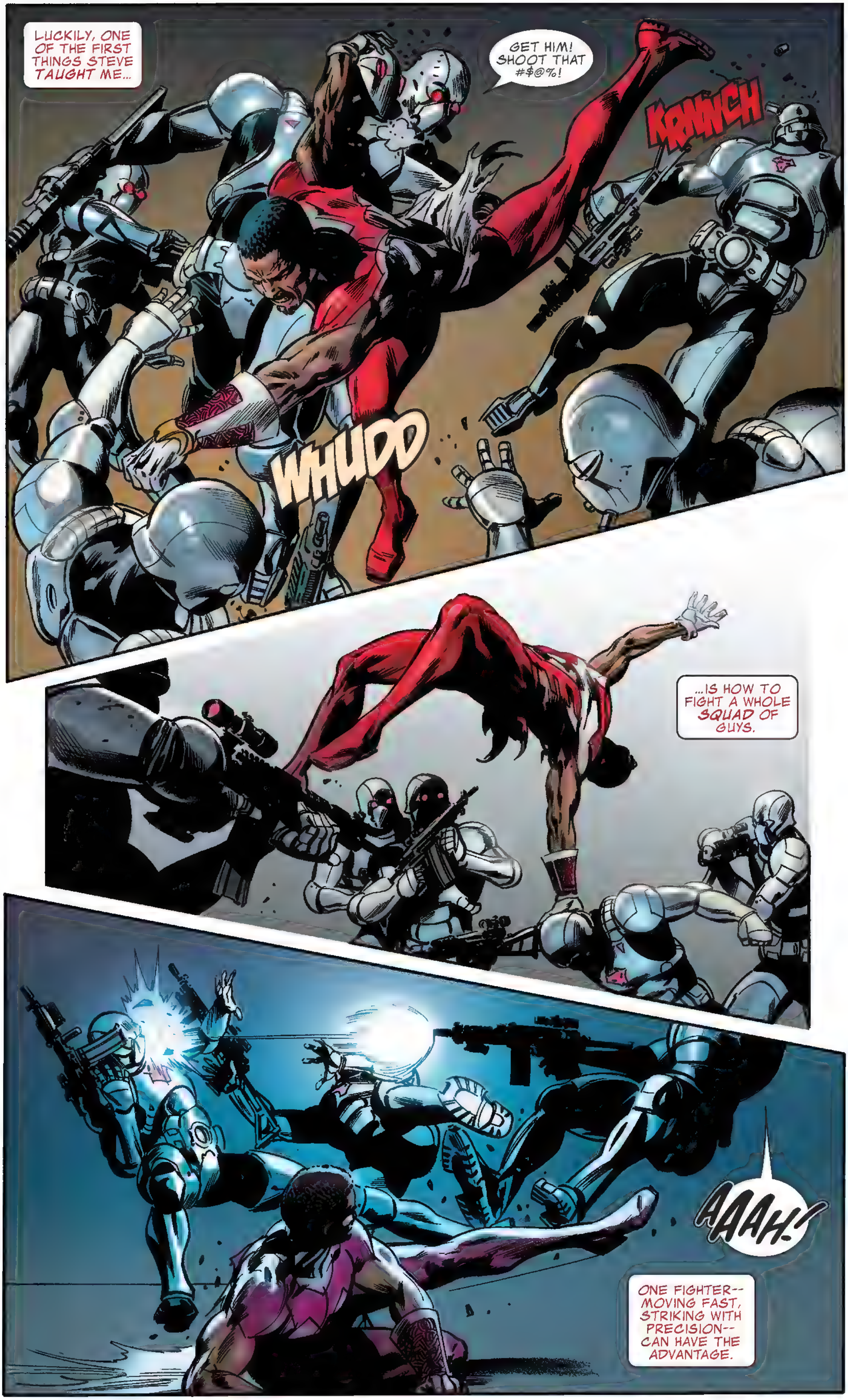

ERRAAAWW!
PHIL!
--GAAAHH!
KA-SMAAK
GET OFFA ME, DAMN YOU!
OWW!
FRIGGIN' BIRD!

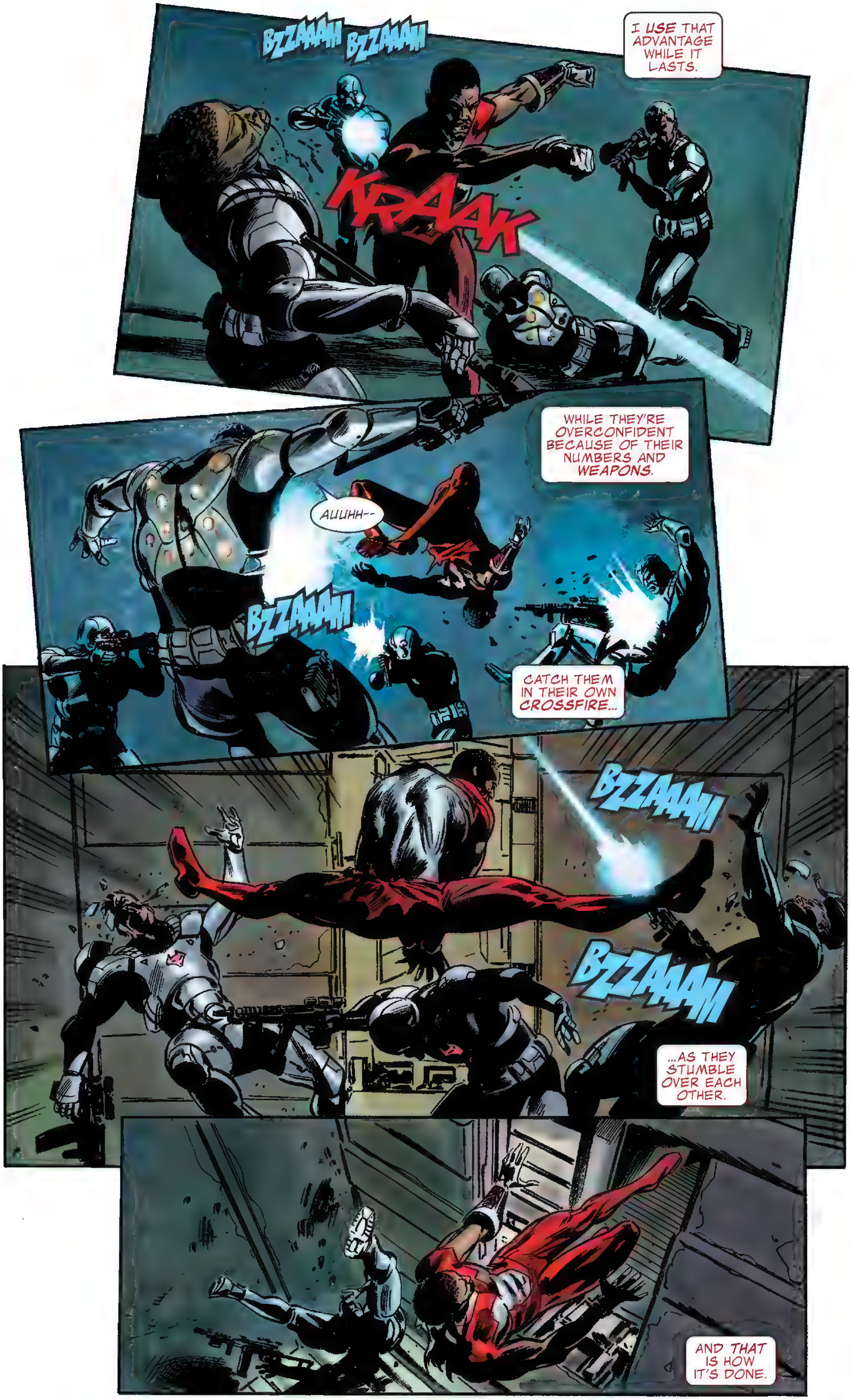

REDWING-- GET CLEAR!
NAA--
WHUDD
--AAAAAAAAAAAAAH!
SEE? I TOLD YOU I'D NEED YOU ON THIS TRIP...
NOW, LET'S JUST GET OUT OF THESE CUFFS...

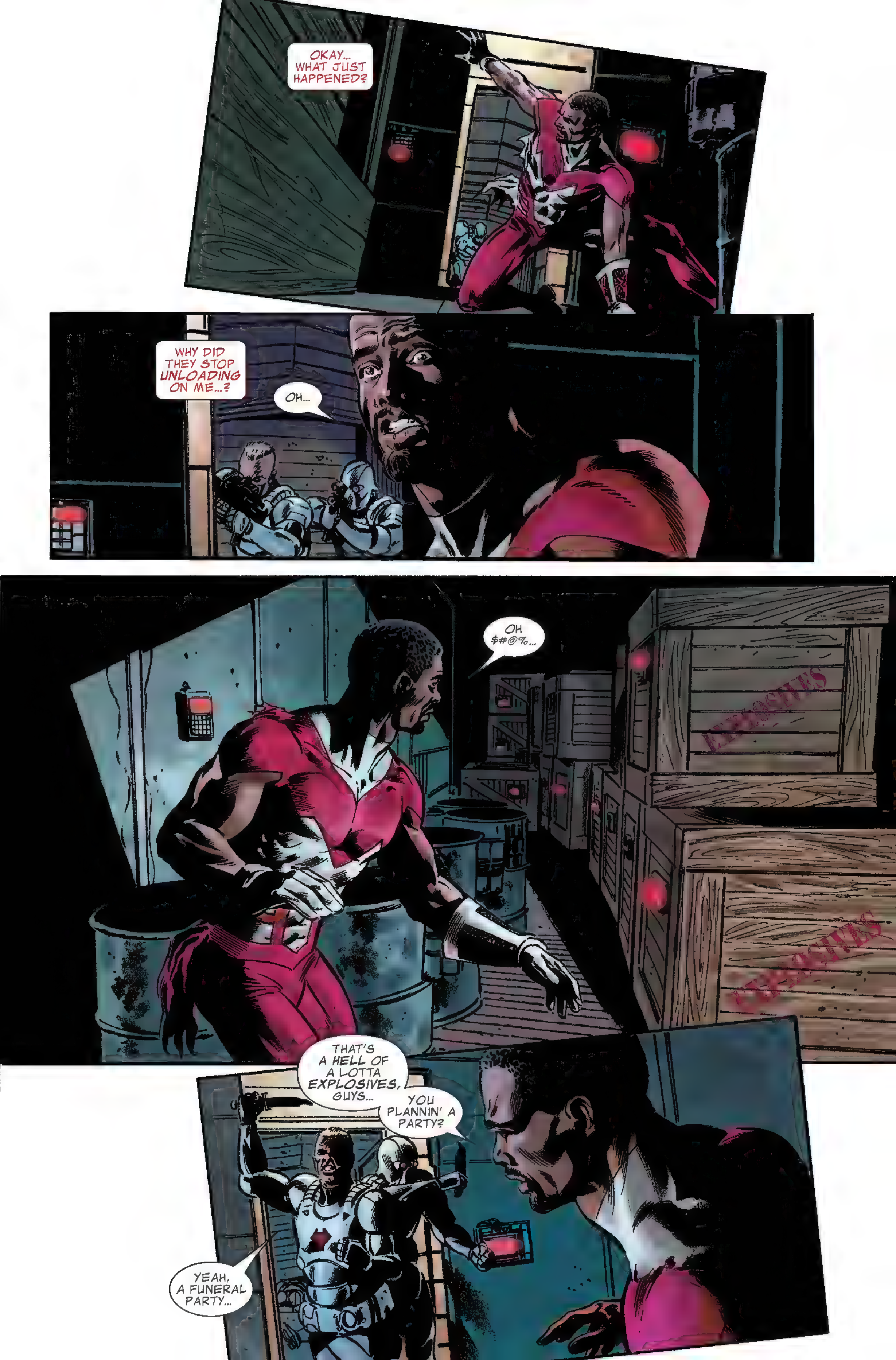

...AND FIGURE OUT WHERE THE HELL THIS TRAIN IS *HEADED*.
YEAH... YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT...
WE'RE TRAVELING SOUTH.
SO, WHAT'S *SOUTH* OF IDAHO THAT THESE WACKOS WOULD CARE ABOUT?
NO, I CAN'T JUST *JUMP OFF*... WISH I COULD...
BUT WHAT THEY SAID, ABOUT THE *FINAL DESTINATION* OF THIS TRAIN...
THINK I BETTER SEE WHAT KIND OF *CARGO* IT'S CARRYING...
I'LL BE *FINE*, BOY... YOU GO SCOUT AHEAD...

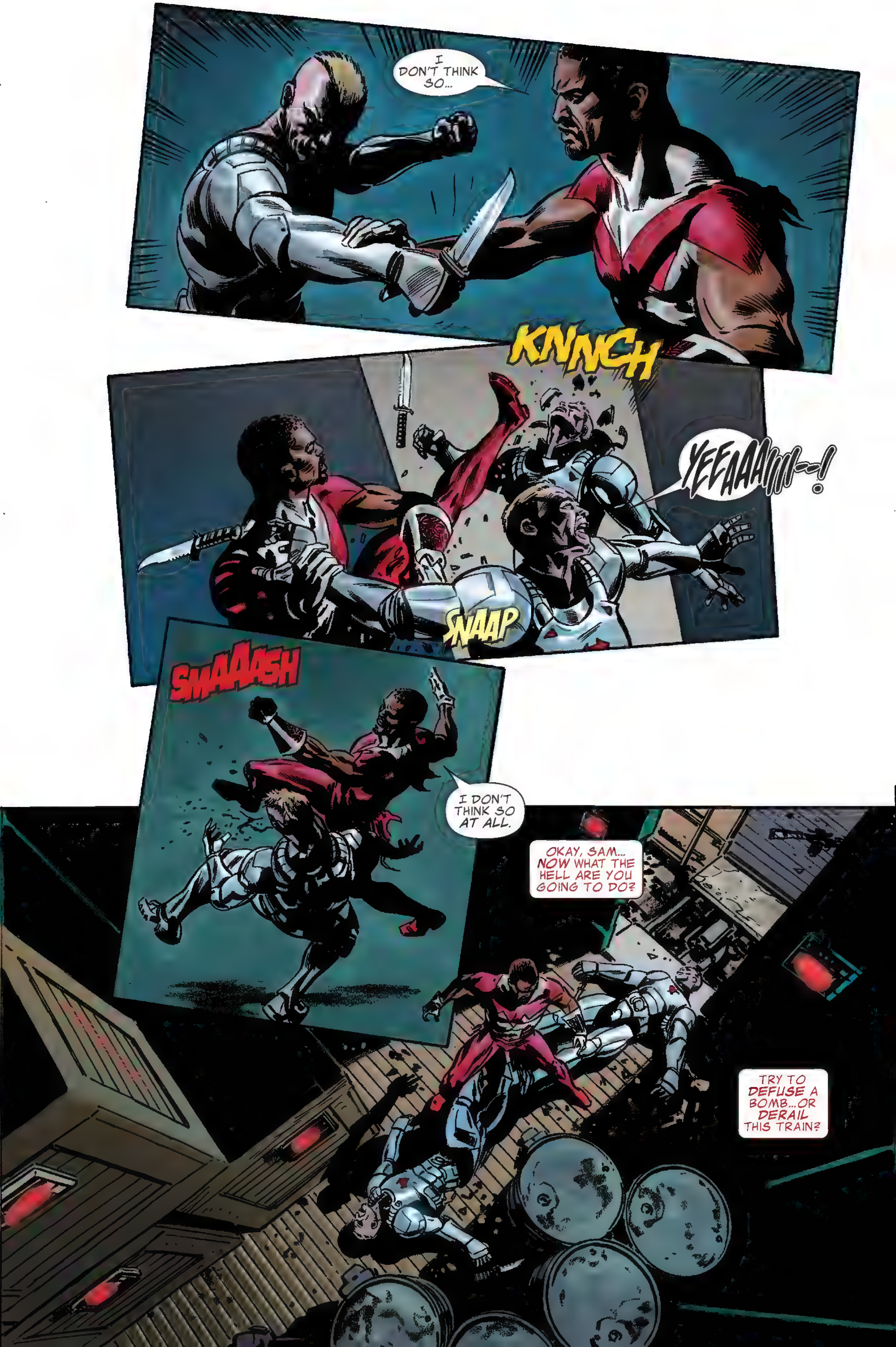

OKAY, SAM... WHAT'S THE *PLAN* NOW?
TAKING ON A WHOLE *TRAIN* FULL OF ARMORED *FANATICS* ON YOUR OWN?
SOUNDS MORE LIKE A *BUCKY* PLAN.
BUT WHAT THE HELL *ELSE* ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
LET THEM *WIN?* NO WAY.
BZZAAAM
SMAAAK

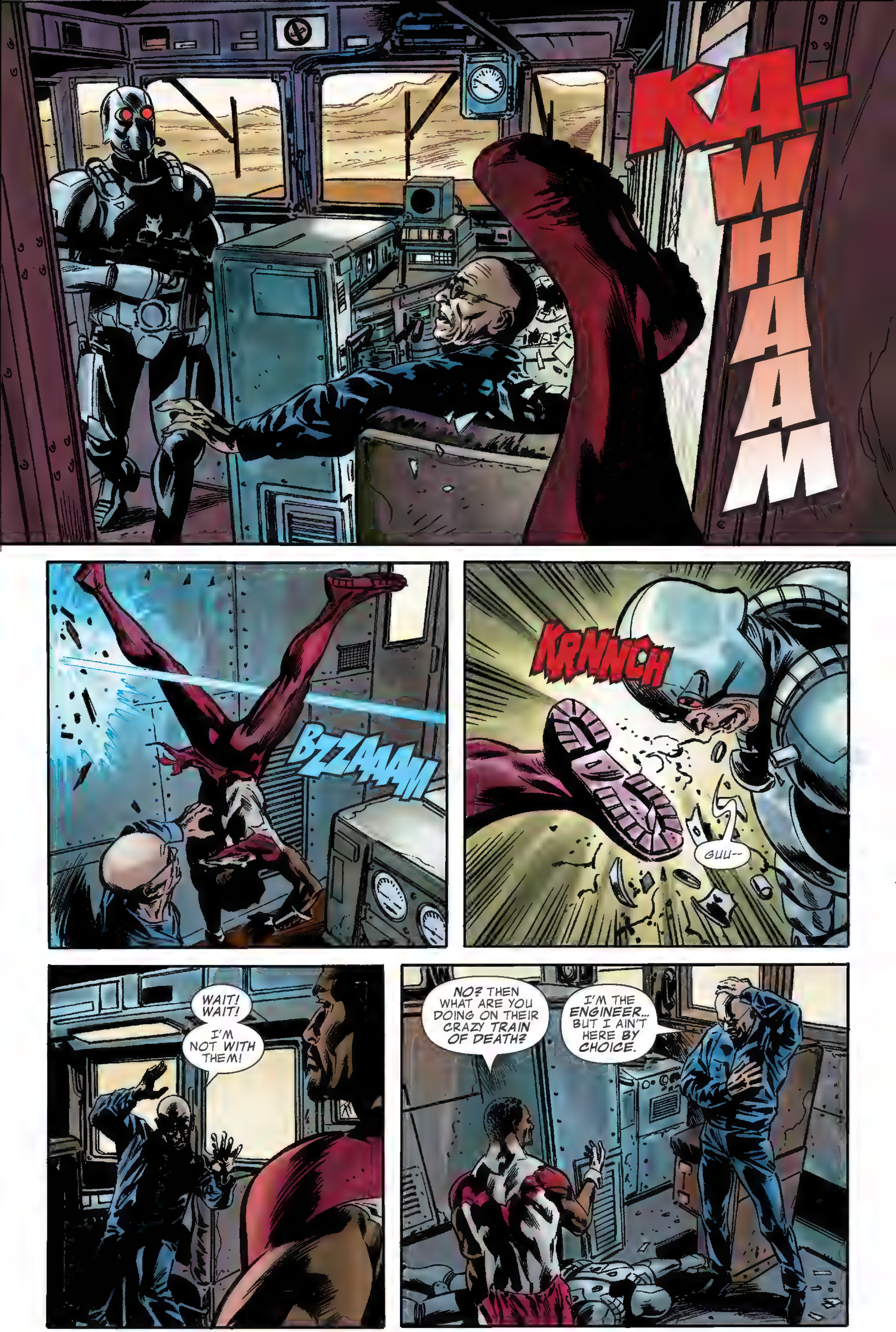

OKAY...SO MUCH FOR THE SNEAK ATTACK...
THE PRISONER!
BZZAAAM
BZZAAAM
BZZAAAM
BZZAAAM
BZZAAAM
GUESS IT'S TIME TO JUST DIVE RIGHT IN.
KRRAAK

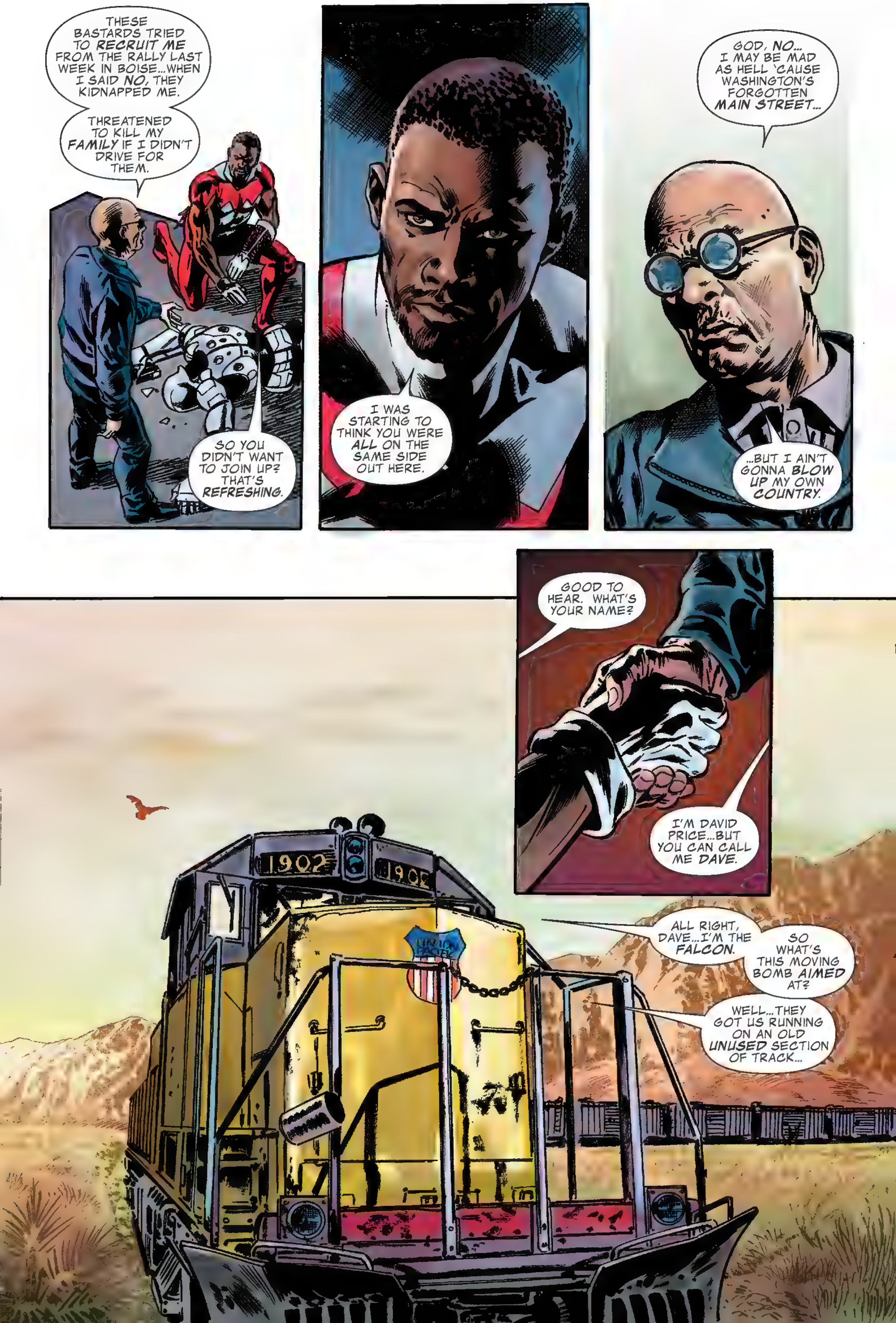

LUCKILY, ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS STEVE TAUGHT ME...
GET HIM! SHOOT THAT #$@%!
KRNNCH
WHUDD
...IS HOW TO FIGHT A WHOLE SQUAD OF GUYS.
AAAH!
ONE FIGHTER-- MOVING FAST, STRIKING WITH PRECISION-- CAN HAVE THE ADVANTAGE.

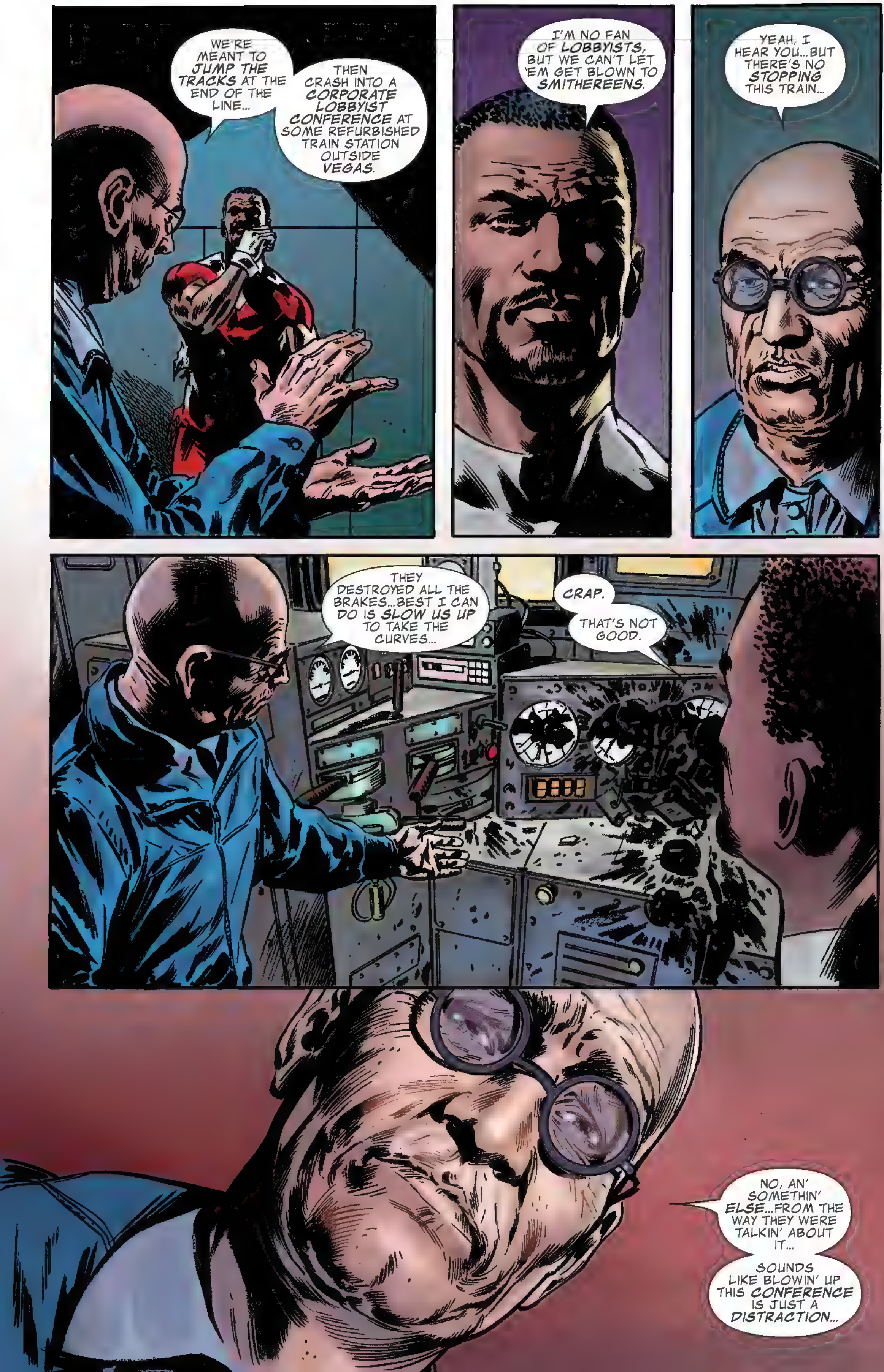

BZZAAAM BZZAAAM
I USE THAT ADVANTAGE WHILE IT LASTS.
KRAAAK
WHILE THEY'RE OVERCONFIDENT BECAUSE OF THEIR NUMBERS AND WEAPONS.
AUUHH--
BZZAAAM
CATCH THEM IN THEIR OWN CROSSFIRE...
BZZAAAM
BZZAAAM
...AS THEY STUMBLE OVER EACH OTHER.
AND THAT IS HOW IT'S DONE.

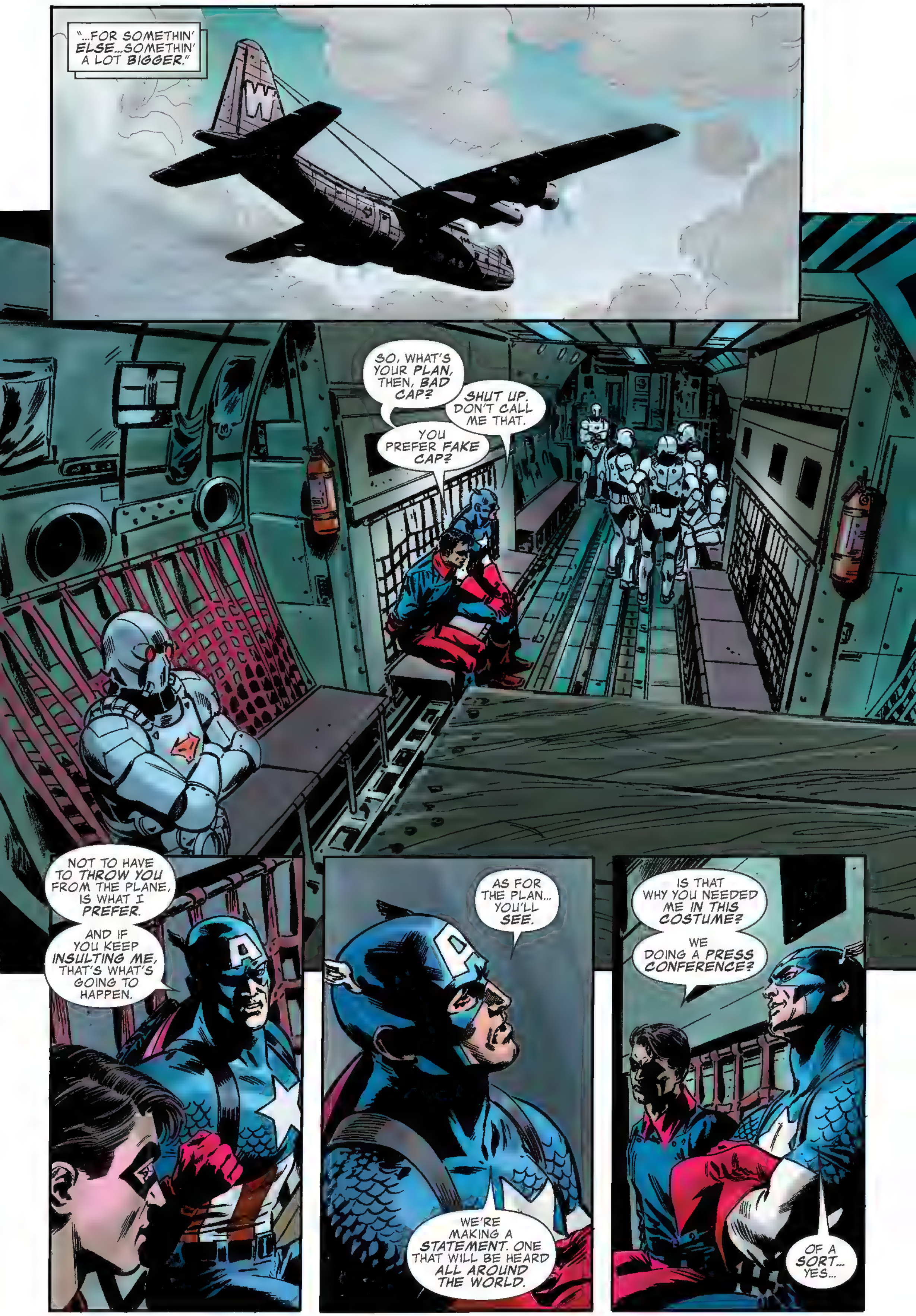

OKAY... WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
WHY DID THEY STOP *UNLOADING* ON ME...?
OH...
OH $#@%...
EXPLOSIVES
EXPLOSIVES
THAT'S A *HELL* OF A LOTTA *EXPLOSIVES*, GUYS...
YOU PLANNIN' A PARTY?
YEAH, A FUNERAL PARTY...

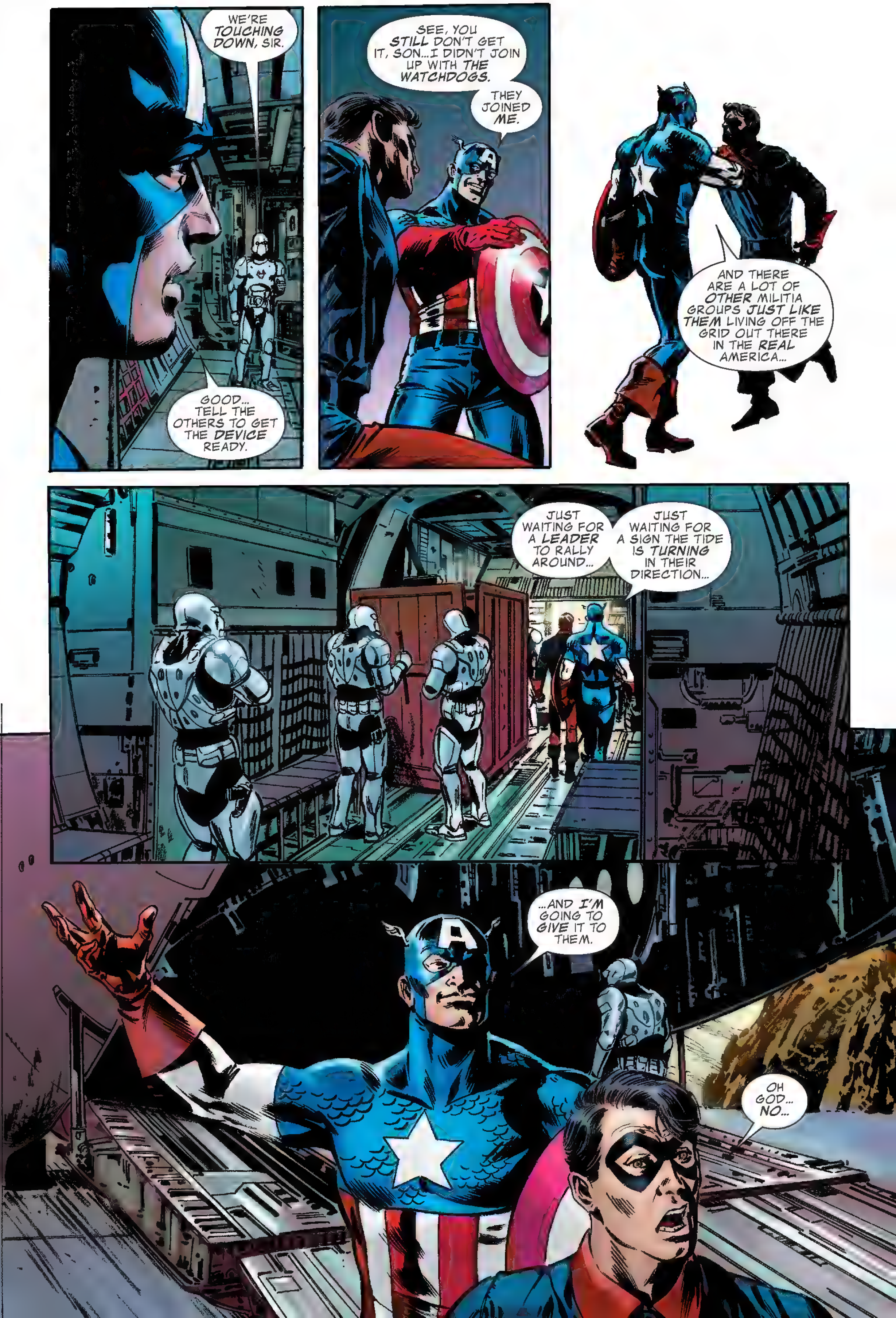

I DON'T THINK SO...
KNNCH
YEEAAAIIII--!
SNAAP
SMAAASH
I DON'T THINK SO AT ALL.
OKAY, SAM... NOW WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
TRY TO DEFUSE A BOMB...OR DERAIL THIS TRAIN?

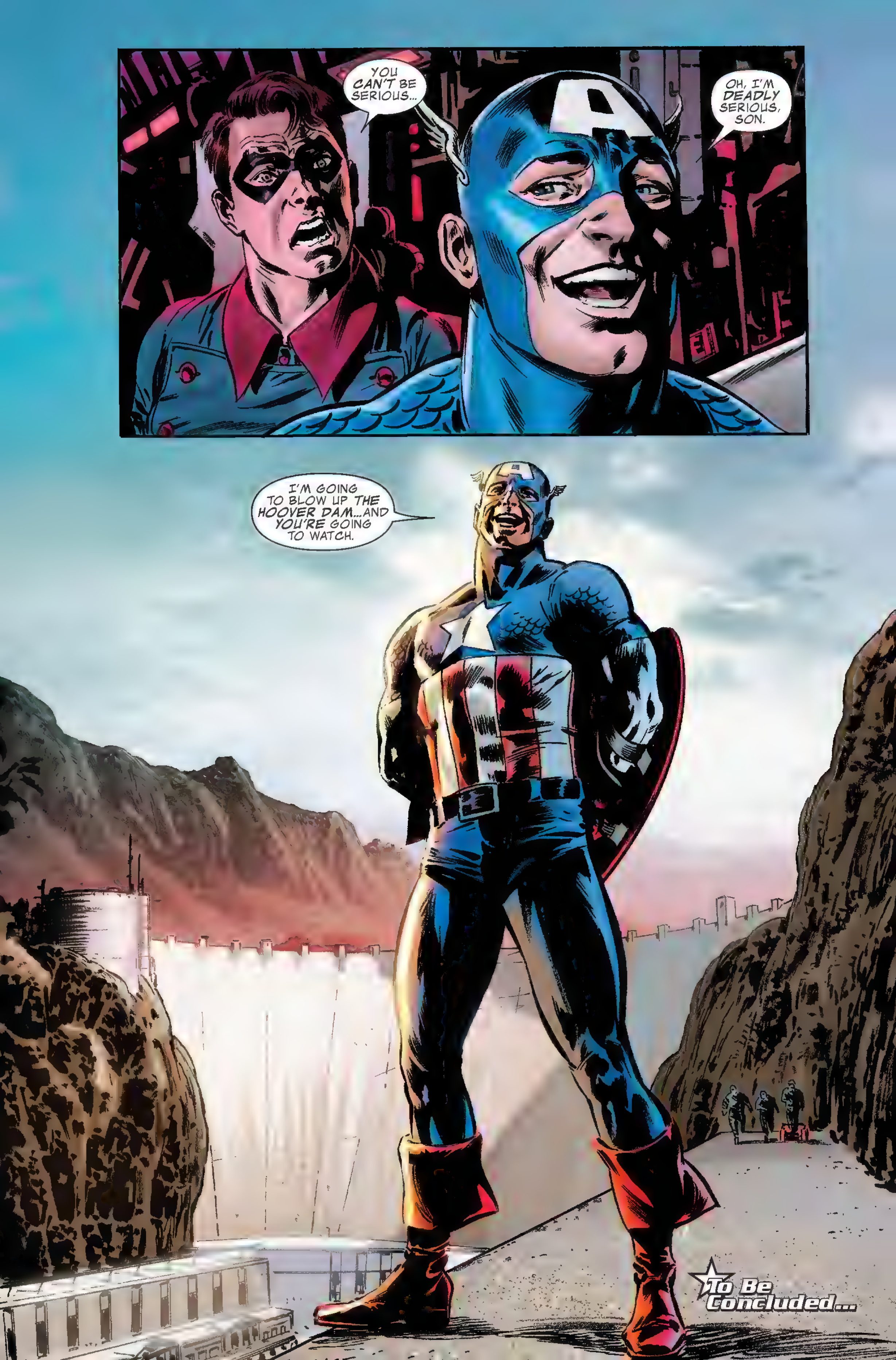

KA-WHAAM
BZZAAAM
KRNNCH
GUU--
WAIT! WAIT!
I'M NOT WITH THEM!
NO? THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON THEIR CRAZY TRAIN OF DEATH?
I'M THE ENGINEER... BUT I AIN'T HERE BY CHOICE.


THESE BASTARDS TRIED TO RECRUIT ME FROM THE RALLY LAST WEEK IN BOISE...WHEN I SAID NO, THEY KIDNAPPED ME.
THREATENED TO KILL MY FAMILY IF I DIDN'T DRIVE FOR THEM.
SO YOU DIDN'T WANT TO JOIN UP? THAT'S REFRESHING.
I WAS STARTING TO THINK YOU WERE ALL ON THE SAME SIDE OUT HERE.
GOD, NO... I MAY BE MAD AS HELL 'CAUSE WASHINGTON'S FORGOTTEN MAIN STREET...
...BUT I AIN'T GONNA BLOW UP MY OWN COUNTRY.
GOOD TO HEAR. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I'M DAVID PRICE...BUT YOU CAN CALL ME DAVE.
1902
1902
ALL RIGHT, DAVE...I'M THE FALCON.
SO WHAT'S THIS MOVING BOMB AIMED AT?
WELL...THEY GOT US RUNNING ON AN OLD UNUSED SECTION OF TRACK...


WE'RE MEANT TO JUMP THE TRACKS AT THE END OF THE LINE...
THEN CRASH INTO A CORPORATE LOBBYIST CONFERENCE AT SOME REFURBISHED TRAIN STATION OUTSIDE VEGAS.
I'M NO FAN OF LOBBYISTS, BUT WE CAN'T LET 'EM GET BLOWN TO SMITHEREENS.
YEAH, I HEAR YOU...BUT THERE'S NO STOPPING THIS TRAIN...
THEY DESTROYED ALL THE BRAKES...BEST I CAN DO IS SLOW US UP TO TAKE THE CURVES...
CRAP.
THAT'S NOT GOOD.
NO, AN' SOMETHIN' ELSE...FROM THE WAY THEY WERE TALKIN' ABOUT IT...
SOUNDS LIKE BLOWIN' UP THIS CONFERENCE IS JUST A DISTRACTION...


"...FOR SOMETHIN' ELSE...SOMETHIN' A LOT BIGGER."
W
SO, WHAT'S YOUR PLAN, THEN, BAD CAP?
SHUT UP. DON'T CALL ME THAT.
YOU PREFER FAKE CAP?
NOT TO HAVE TO THROW YOU FROM THE PLANE, IS WHAT I PREFER.
AND IF YOU KEEP INSULTING ME, THAT'S WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.
AS FOR THE PLAN... YOU'LL SEE.
WE'RE MAKING A STATEMENT. ONE THAT WILL BE HEARD ALL AROUND THE WORLD.
IS THAT WHY YOU NEEDED ME IN THIS COSTUME?
WE DOING A PRESS CONFERENCE?
OF A SORT... YES...


WE'RE *TOUCHING DOWN,* SIR.
GOOD... TELL THE OTHERS TO GET THE *DEVICE* READY.
SEE, YOU *STILL* DON'T GET IT, SON...I DIDN'T JOIN UP WITH *THE WATCHDOGS.*
THEY JOINED *ME.*
AND THERE ARE A LOT OF *OTHER* MILITIA GROUPS *JUST LIKE THEM* LIVING OFF THE GRID OUT THERE IN THE *REAL* AMERICA...
JUST WAITING FOR A *LEADER* TO RALLY AROUND...
JUST WAITING FOR A SIGN THE TIDE IS *TURNING* IN THEIR DIRECTION...
...AND *I'M* GOING TO *GIVE* IT TO THEM.
OH GOD... *NO...*


YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS...
OH, I'M DEADLY SERIOUS, SON.
I'M GOING TO BLOW UP THE HOOVER DAM...AND YOU'RE GOING TO WATCH.
To Be Concluded...

MARVEL 605 .com

CAPTAIN AMERICA

BRUBAKER
ROSS
MAGYAR
WHITE

ALSO FEATURING

NOMAD

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CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the man who was Captain America, Cap's former partner during World War II, James "Bucky" Barnes, has taken on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

During the 1950s, while the original Cap was in suspended animation, a substitute Captain America was created. While a nearly perfect physical match for Steve Rogers, this new and recently revived Cap became severely mentally unstable and today leads an army whose purpose is to "reclaim" America.

Attempting to apprehend the rogue Captain America, Bucky and Sam Wilson, aka the Falcon, were captured by the Watchdogs, the '50s Cap's paramilitary anti-government ring. Now, as the Falcon escapes from captivity, the fiendish Cap has forced Bucky to once again don his original costume and watch as he unveils his master plan: blowing up the Hoover Dam.

TWO AMERICAS Conclusion

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Captain America created by Joe Simon and Jack Kirby

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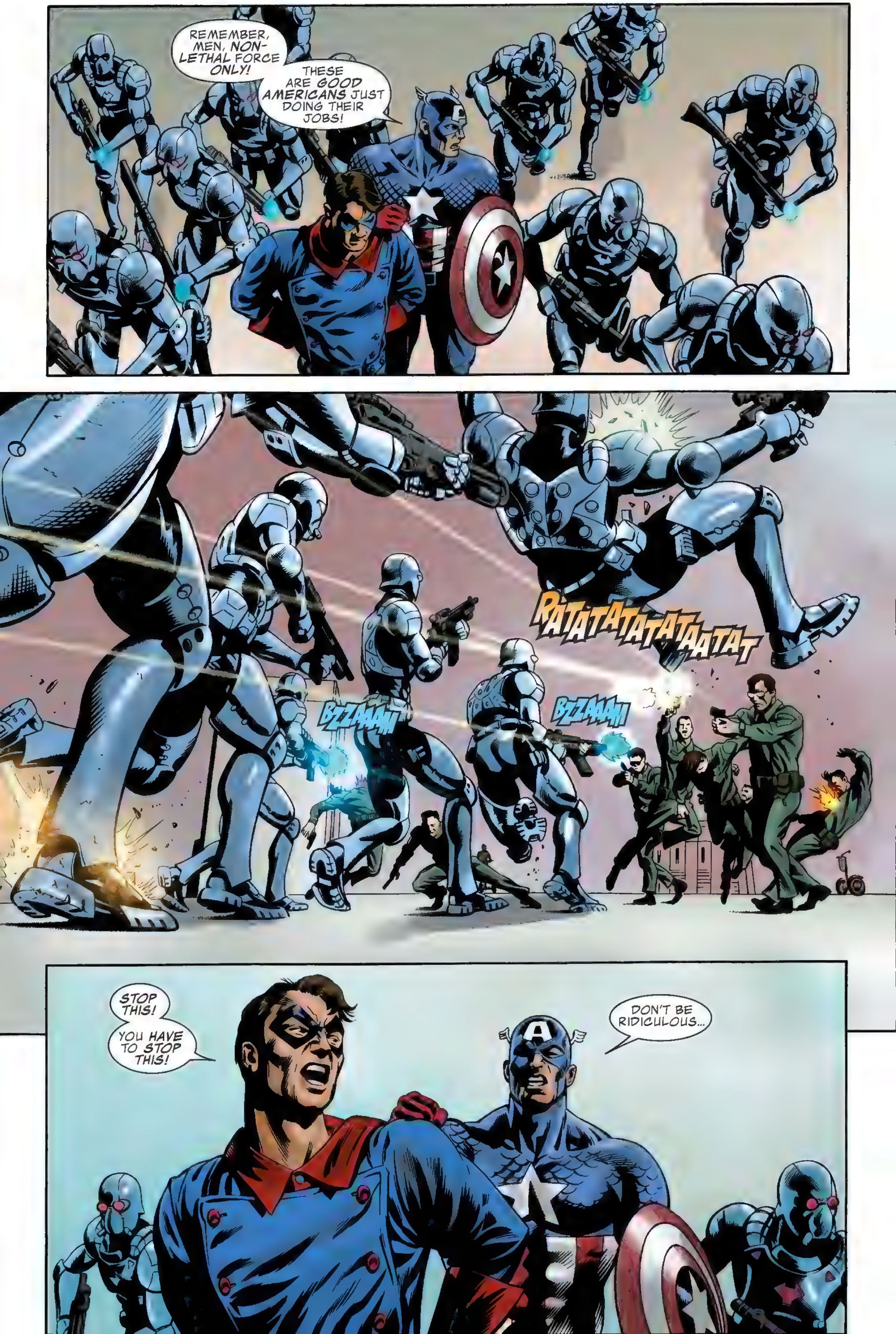
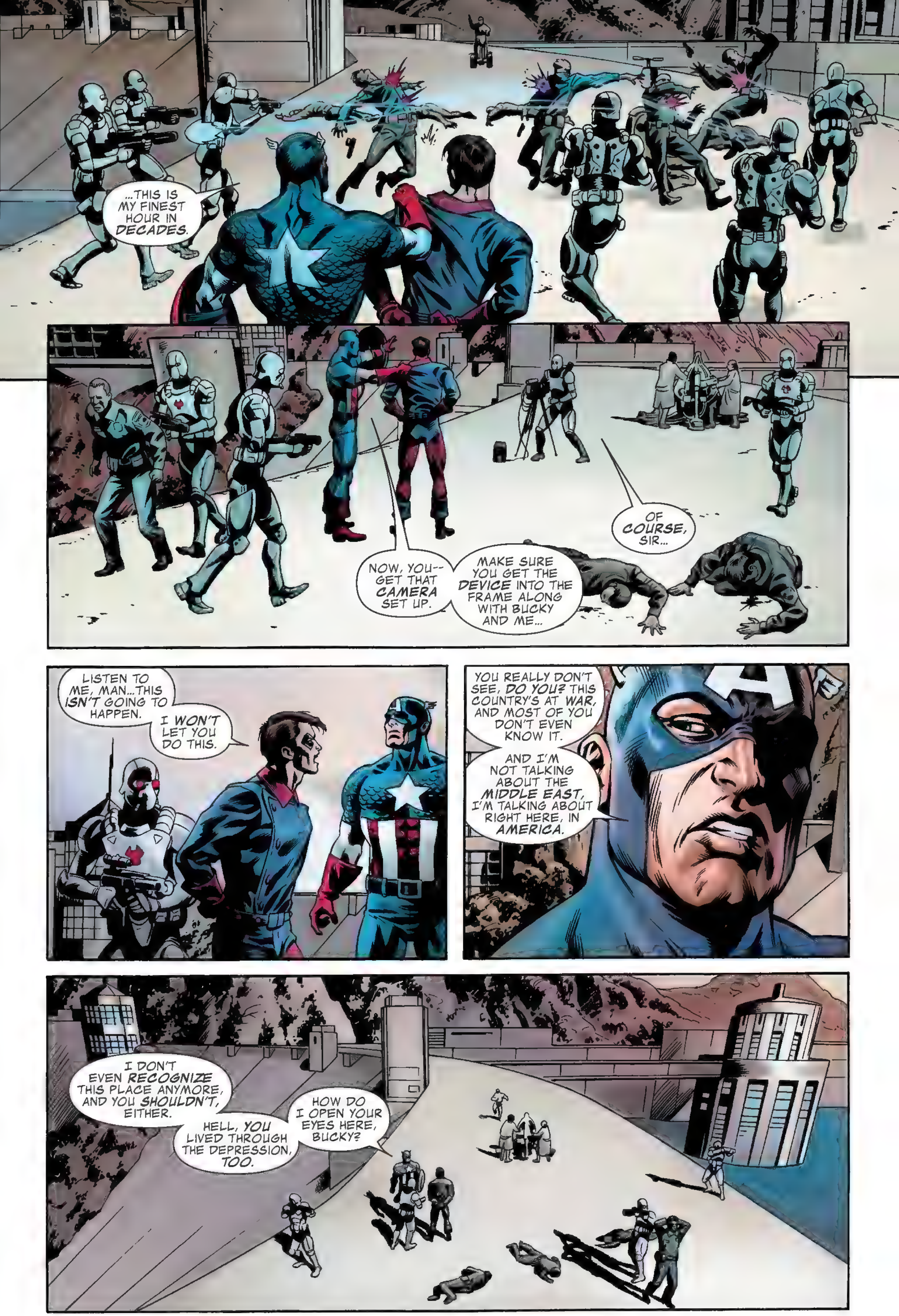
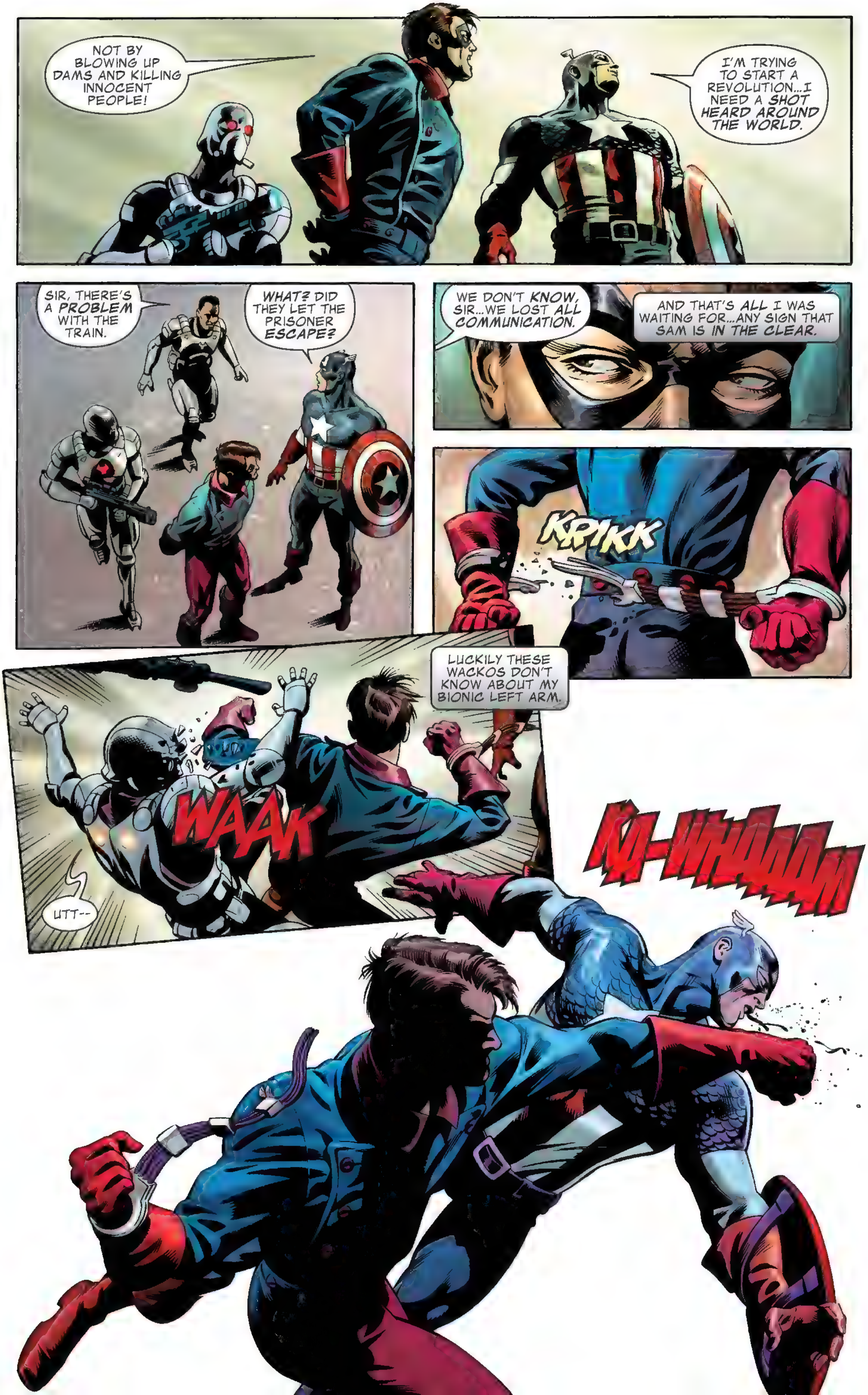
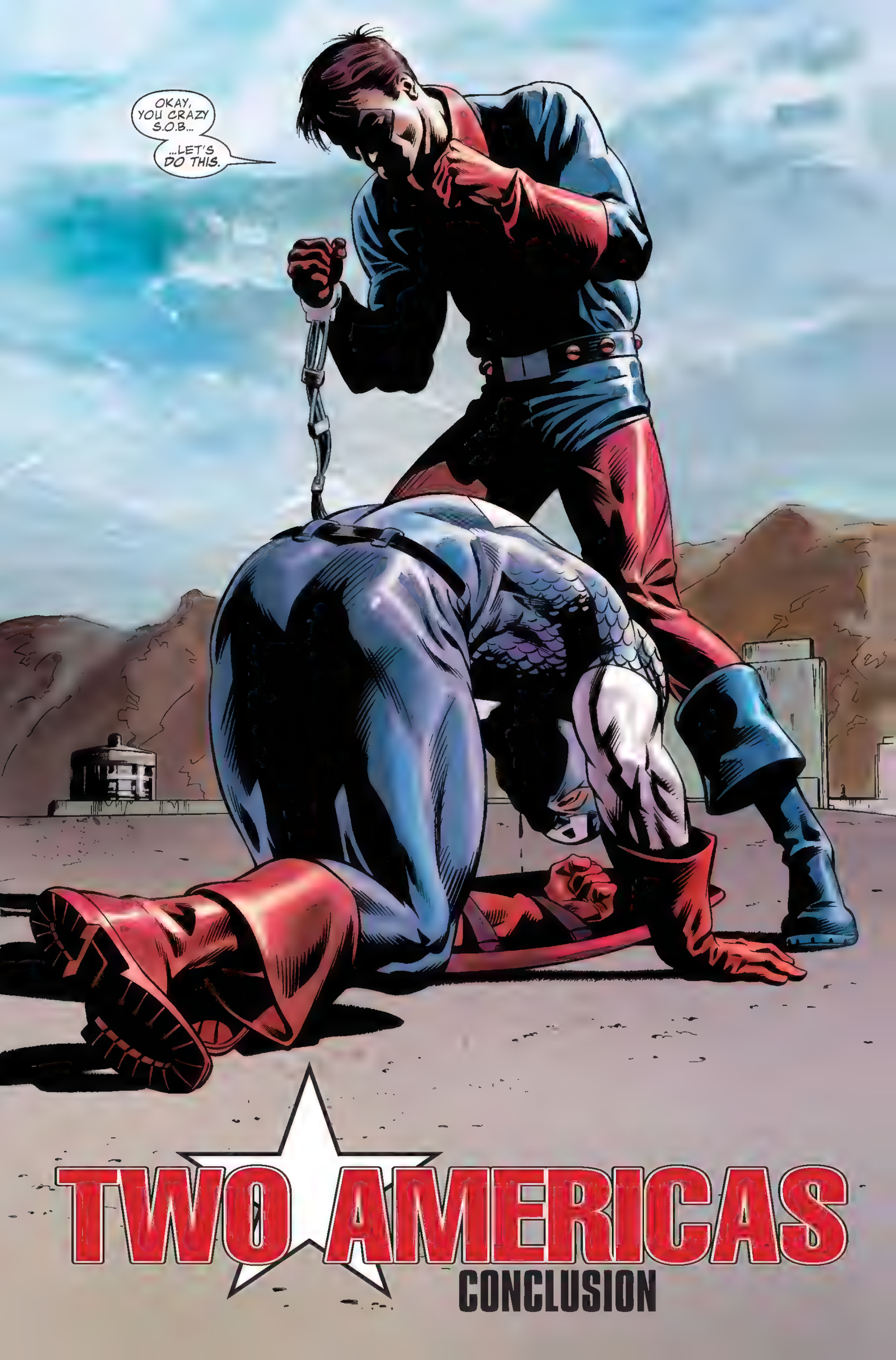

REMEMBER, MEN, NON-LETHAL FORCE ONLY!
THESE ARE GOOD AMERICANS JUST DOING THEIR JOBS!
RATATATATATATAATAT
BZZAAAM
BZZAAAM
STOP THIS!
YOU HAVE TO STOP THIS!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS...

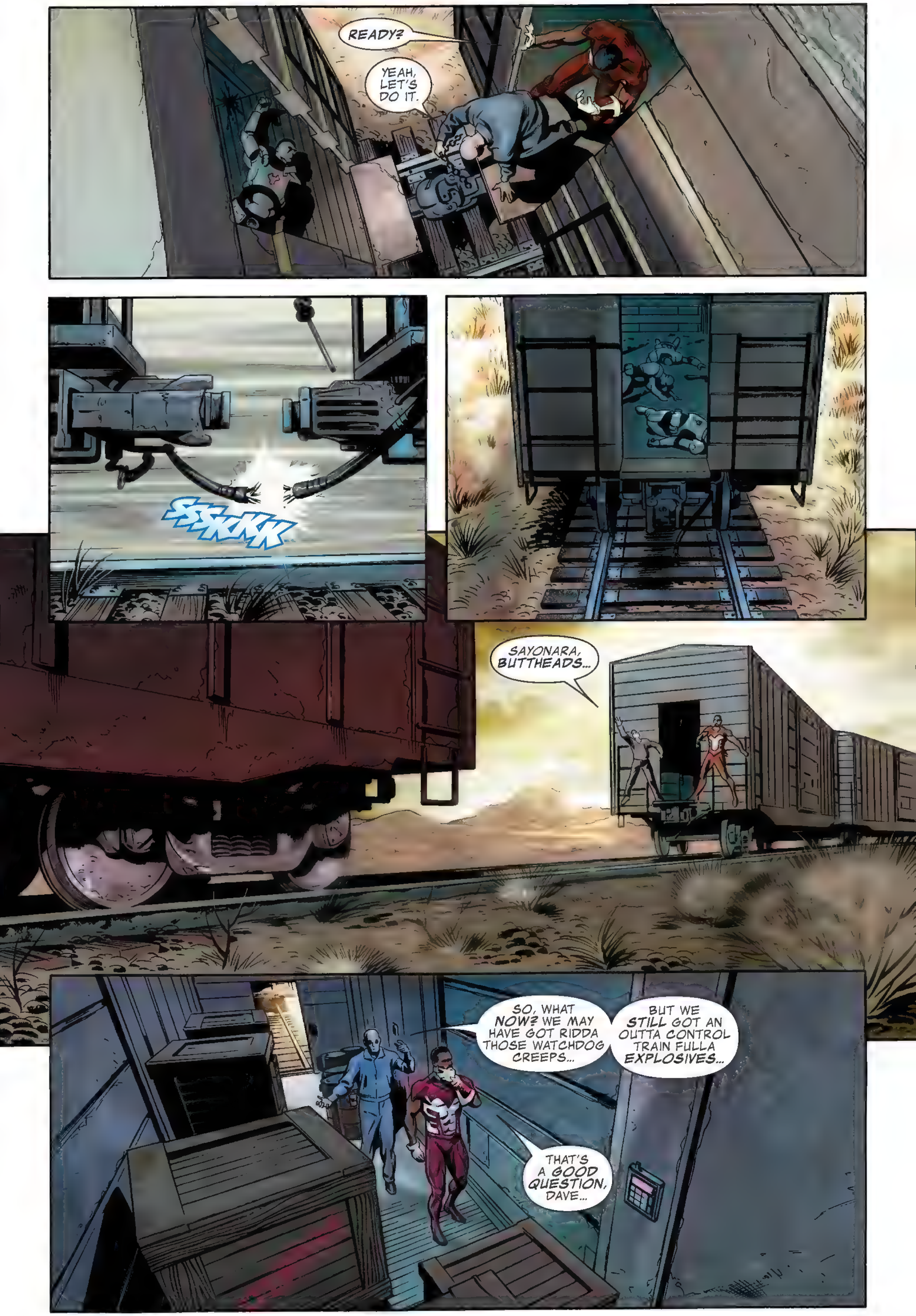

...THIS IS MY FINEST HOUR IN *DECADES.*
NOW, YOU-- GET THAT *CAMERA* SET UP.
MAKE SURE YOU GET THE *DEVICE* INTO THE FRAME ALONG WITH BUCKY AND ME...
OF *COURSE,* SIR...
LISTEN TO ME, MAN...THIS *ISN'T* GOING TO HAPPEN.
I *WON'T* LET YOU DO THIS.
YOU REALLY DON'T SEE, *DO YOU?* THIS COUNTRY'S AT *WAR,* AND MOST OF YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW IT.
AND I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE *MIDDLE EAST,* I'M TALKING ABOUT RIGHT HERE, IN *AMERICA.*
I DON'T EVEN *RECOGNIZE* THIS PLACE ANYMORE, AND YOU *SHOULDN'T,* EITHER.
HELL, *YOU* LIVED THROUGH THE DEPRESSION, *TOO.*
HOW DO I OPEN YOUR EYES HERE, BUCKY?

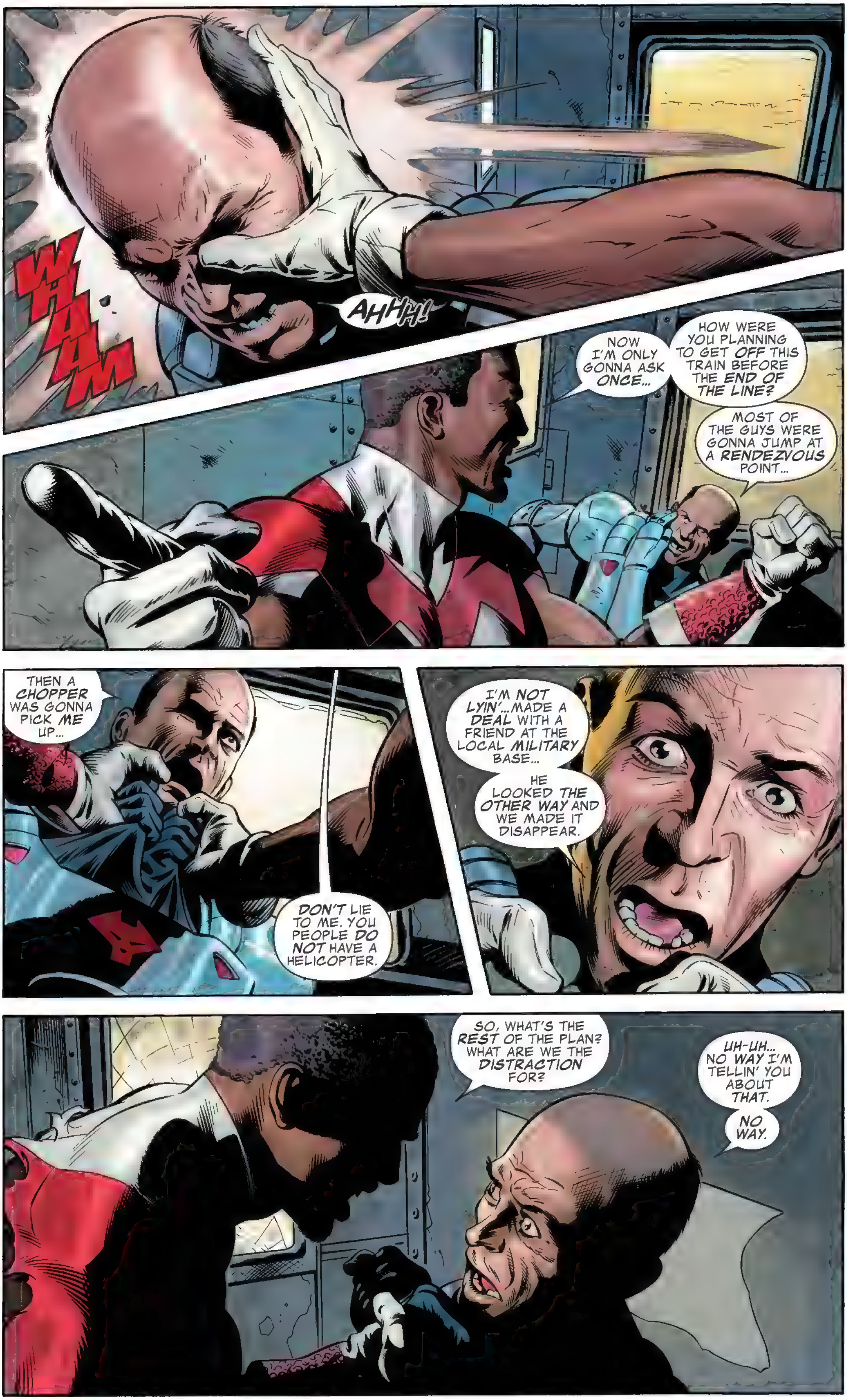

NOT BY BLOWING UP DAMS AND KILLING INNOCENT PEOPLE!
I'M TRYING TO START A REVOLUTION...I NEED A SHOT HEARD AROUND THE WORLD.
SIR, THERE'S A PROBLEM WITH THE TRAIN.
WHAT? DID THEY LET THE PRISONER ESCAPE?
WE DON'T KNOW, SIR...WE LOST ALL COMMUNICATION.
AND THAT'S ALL I WAS WAITING FOR...ANY SIGN THAT SAM IS IN THE CLEAR.
KRIKK
LUCKILY THESE WACKOS DON'T KNOW ABOUT MY BIONIC LEFT ARM.
WAAK
UTT--
KA-WHAAAM

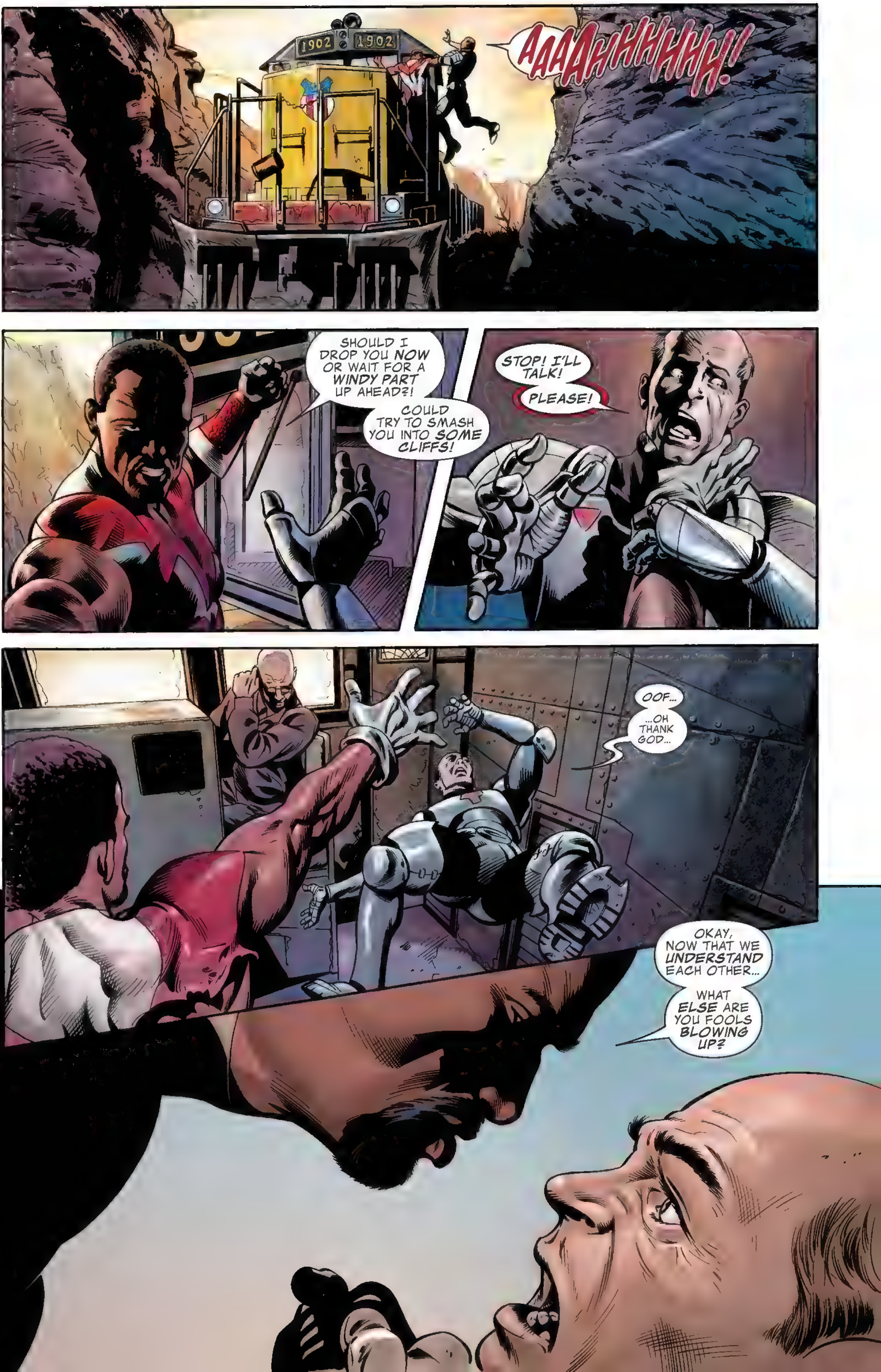

OKAY, YOU CRAZY S.O.B...
...LET'S DO THIS.

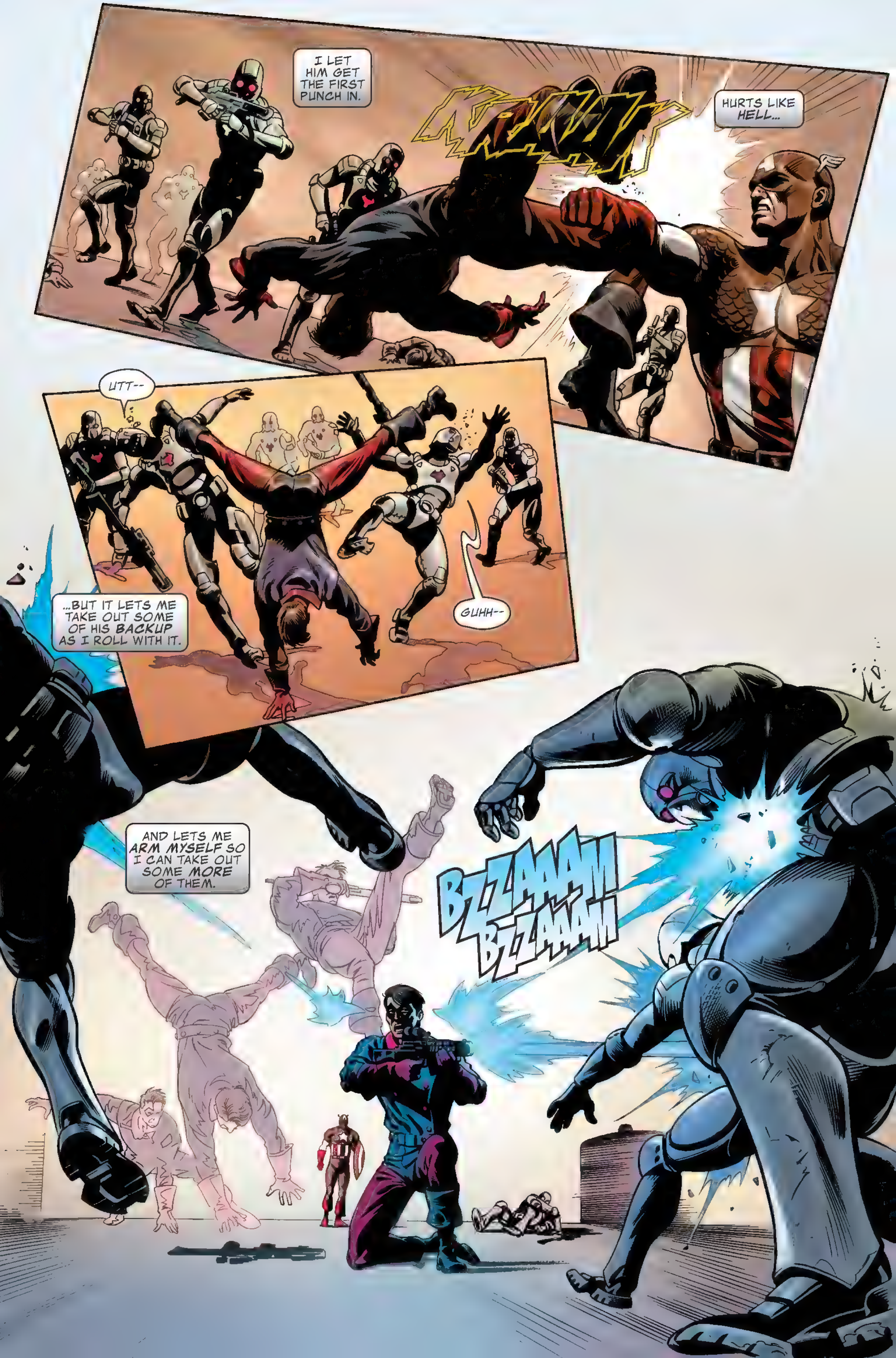
TWO AMERICAS

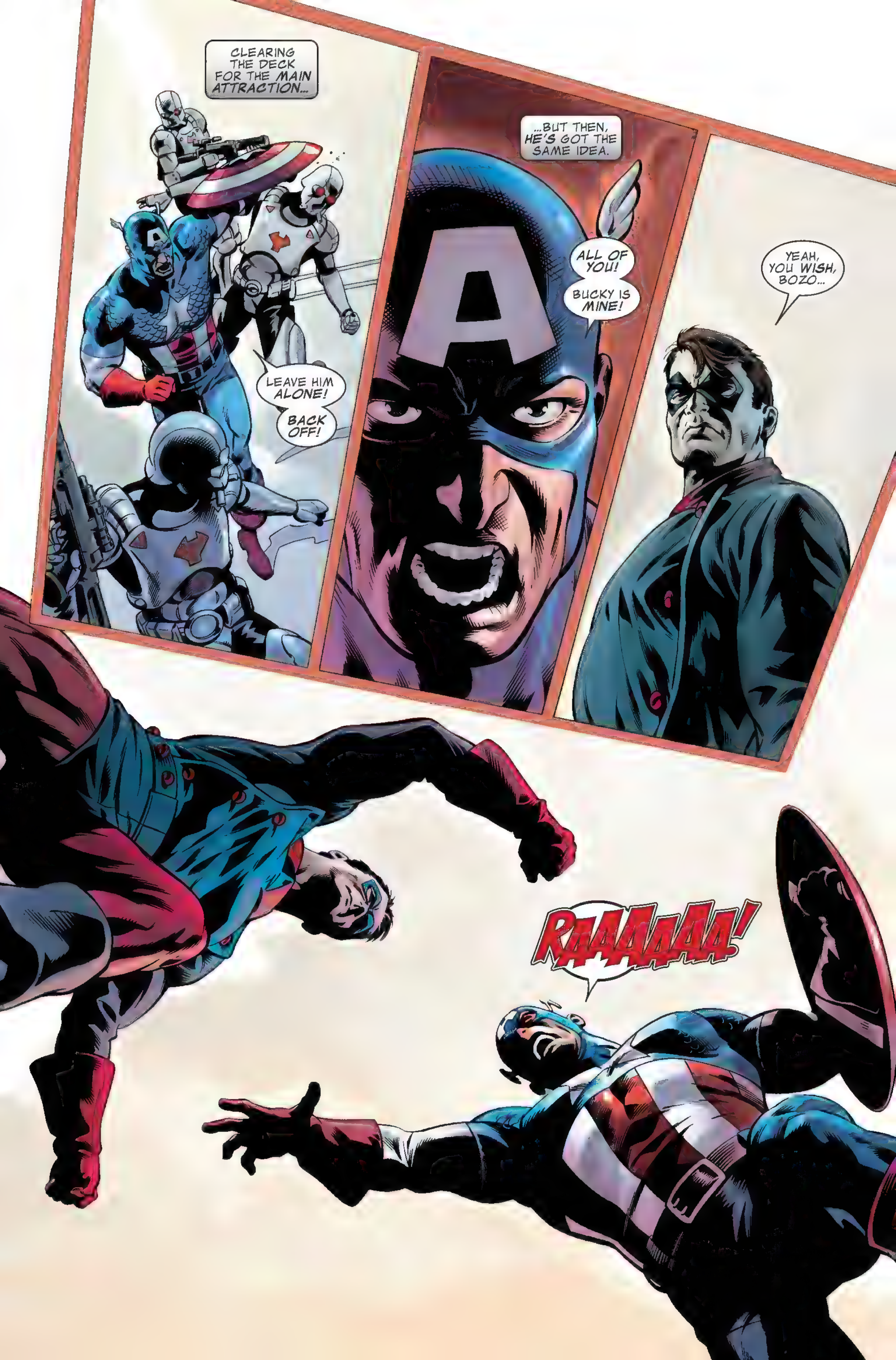
CONCLUSION

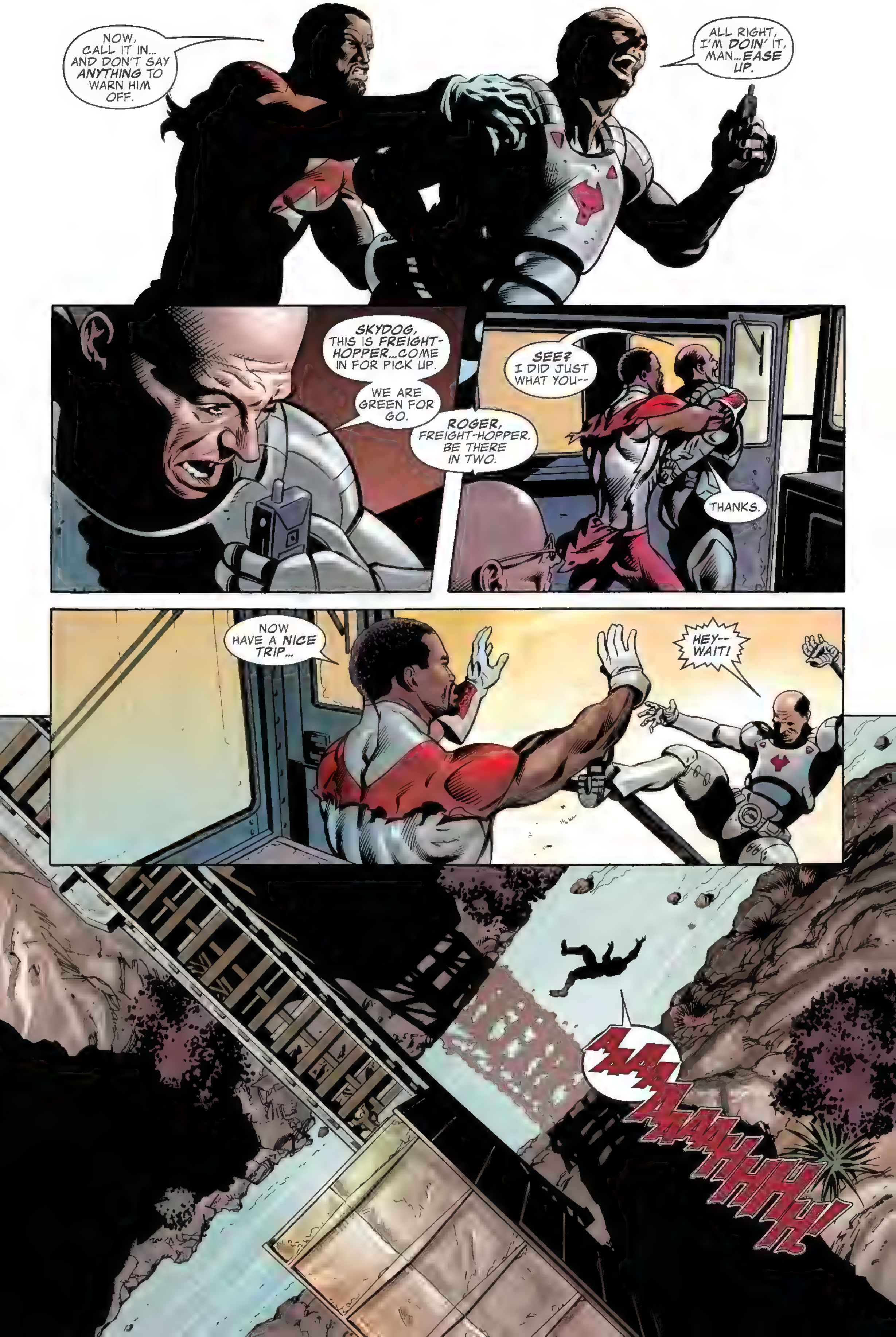

READY?
YEAH, LET'S DO IT.
SSKKKK
SAYONARA, BUTTHEADS...
SO, WHAT NOW? WE MAY HAVE GOT RIDDA THOSE WATCHDOG CREEPS...
BUT WE STILL GOT AN OUTTA CONTROL TRAIN FULLA EXPLOSIVES...
THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION, DAVE...

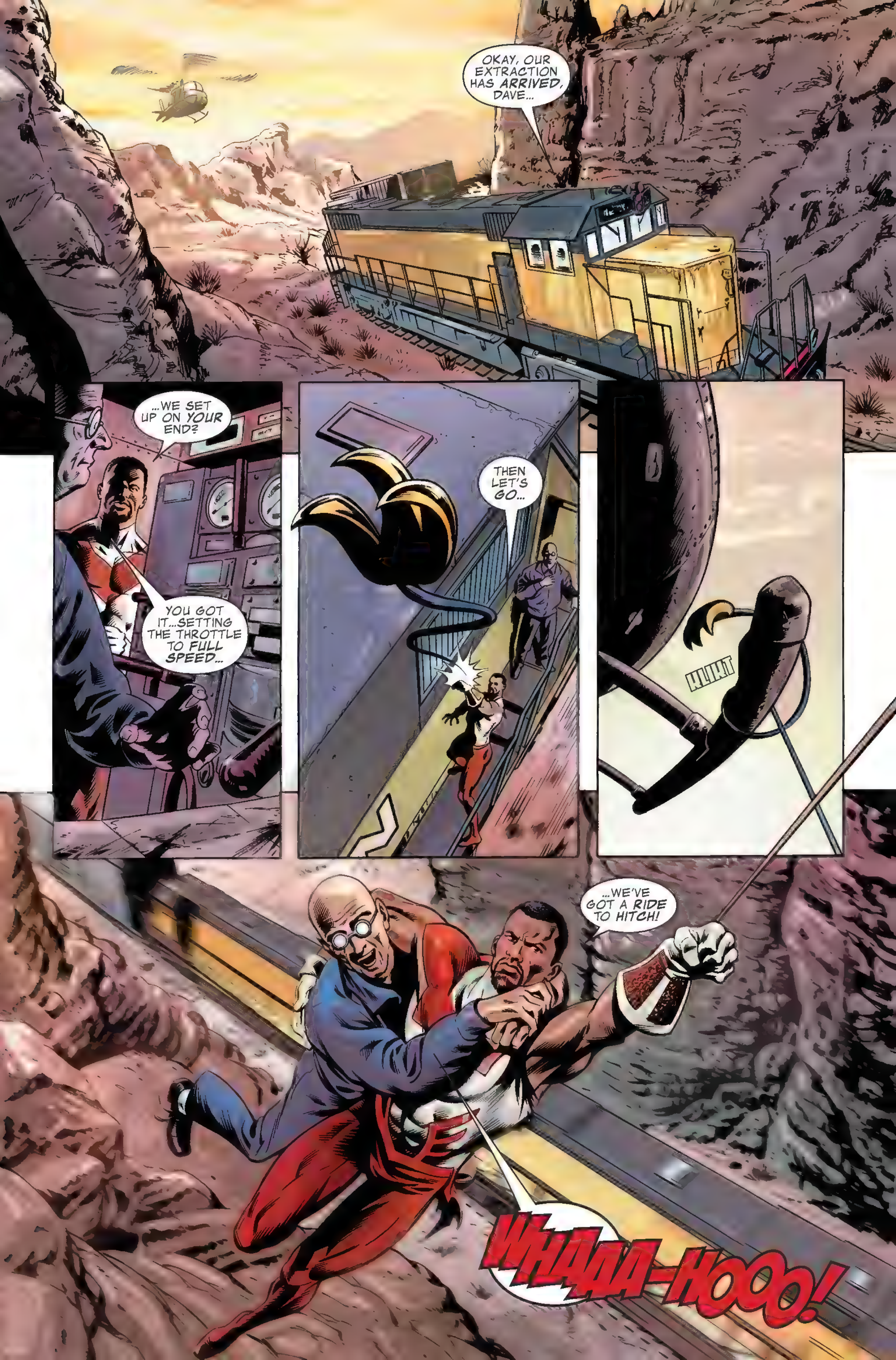

WHAM
AHHH!
NOW I'M ONLY GONNA ASK ONCE...
HOW WERE YOU PLANNING TO GET OFF THIS TRAIN BEFORE THE END OF THE LINE?
MOST OF THE GUYS WERE GONNA JUMP AT A RENDEZVOUS POINT...
THEN A CHOPPER WAS GONNA PICK ME UP...
DON'T LIE TO ME. YOU PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE A HELICOPTER.
I'M NOT LYIN'...MADE A DEAL WITH A FRIEND AT THE LOCAL MILITARY BASE...
HE LOOKED THE OTHER WAY AND WE MADE IT DISAPPEAR.
SO, WHAT'S THE REST OF THE PLAN? WHAT ARE WE THE DISTRACTION FOR?
UH-UH... NO WAY I'M TELLIN' YOU ABOUT THAT.
NO WAY.

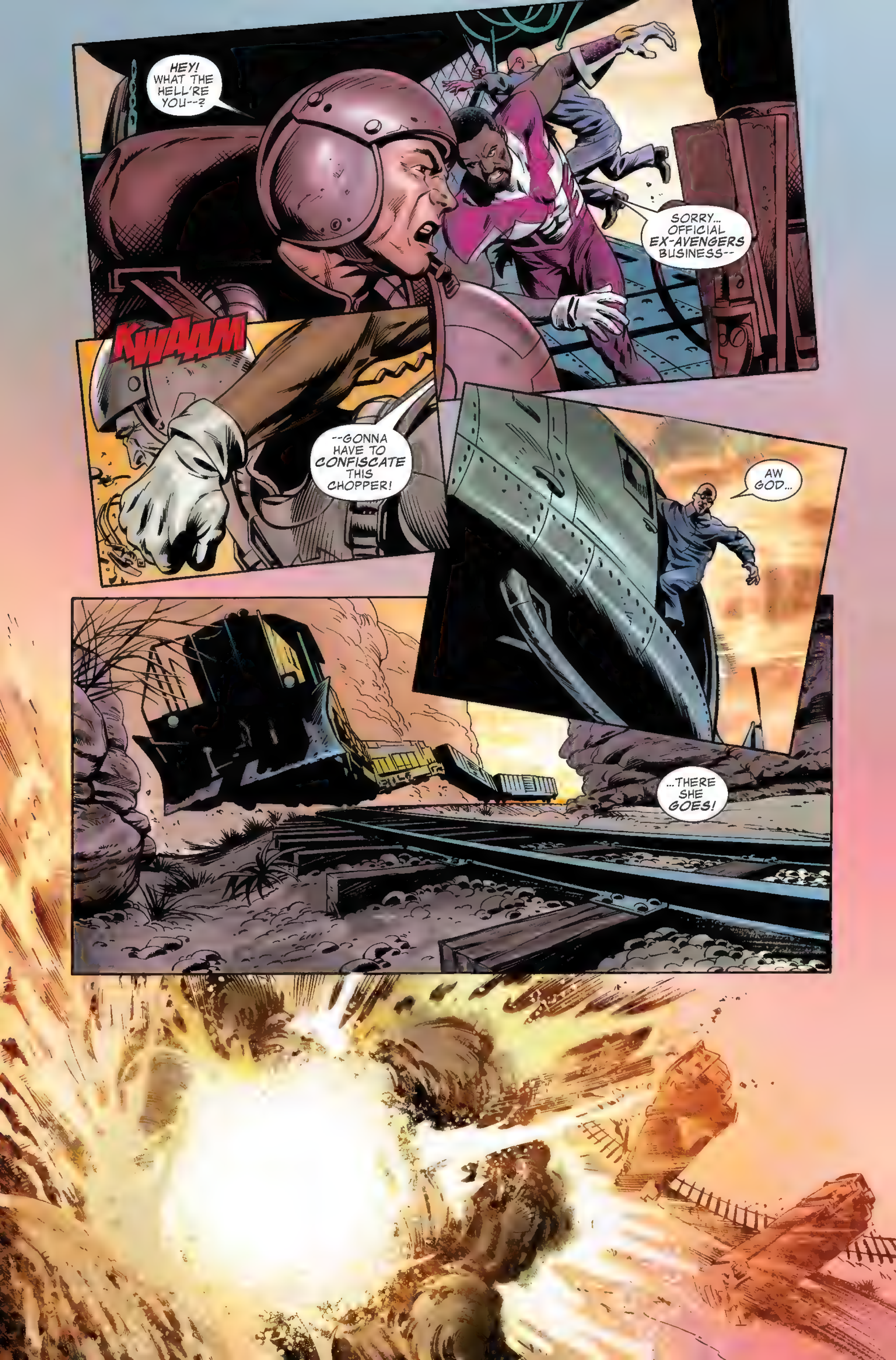

1902
1902
AAAAHHHHHH!
SHOULD I DROP YOU NOW OR WAIT FOR A WINDY PART UP AHEAD?!
COULD TRY TO SMASH YOU INTO SOME CLIFFS!
STOP! I'LL TALK!
PLEASE!
OOF...
...OH THANK GOD...
OKAY, NOW THAT WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER...
WHAT ELSE ARE YOU FOOLS BLOWING UP?

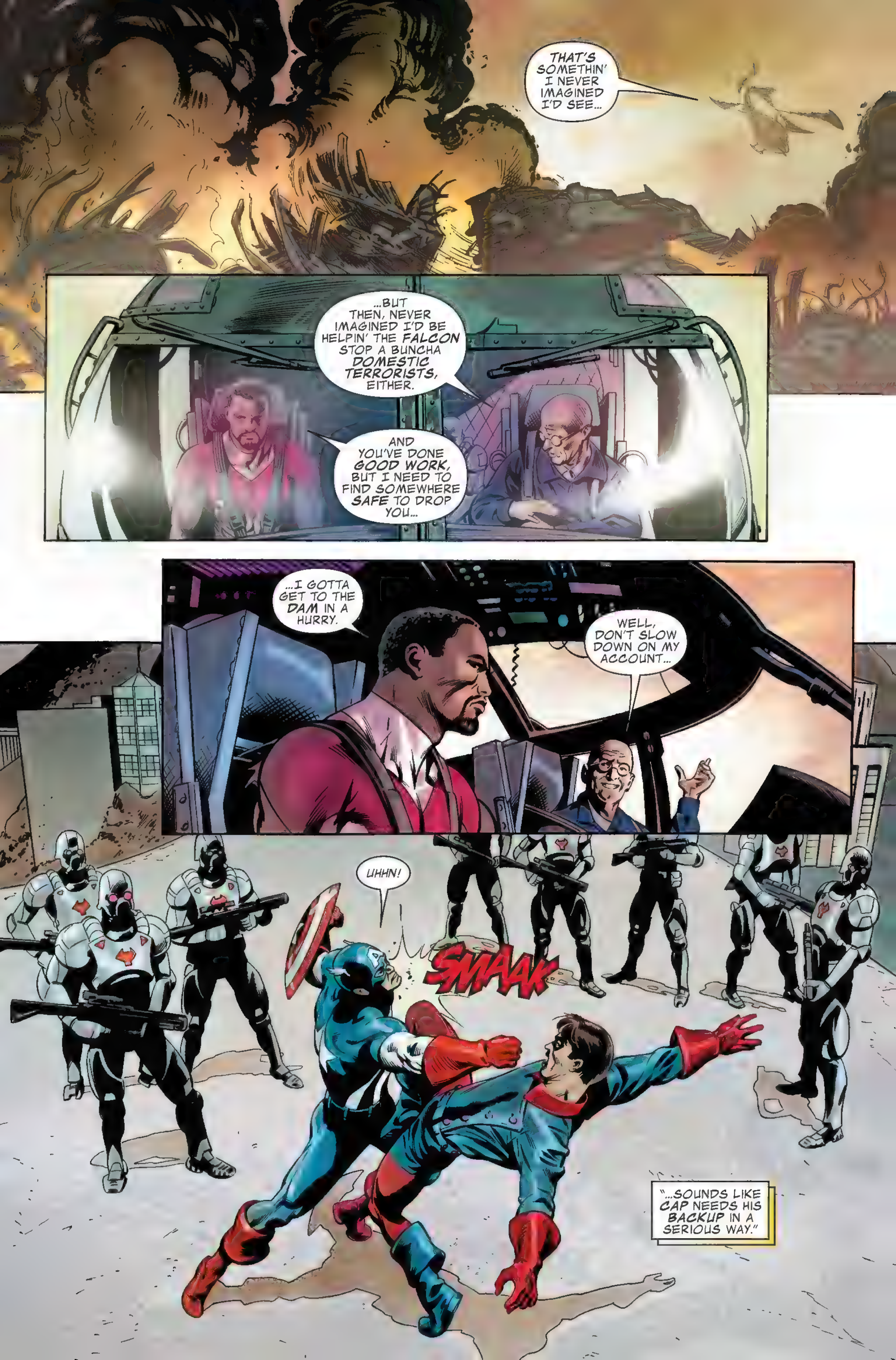

I LET HIM GET THE FIRST PUNCH IN.
HURTS LIKE HELL...
UTT--
...BUT IT LETS ME TAKE OUT SOME OF HIS BACKUP AS I ROLL WITH IT.
GUHH--
AND LETS ME ARM MYSELF SO I CAN TAKE OUT SOME MORE OF THEM.
BZZAAAM
BZZAAAM

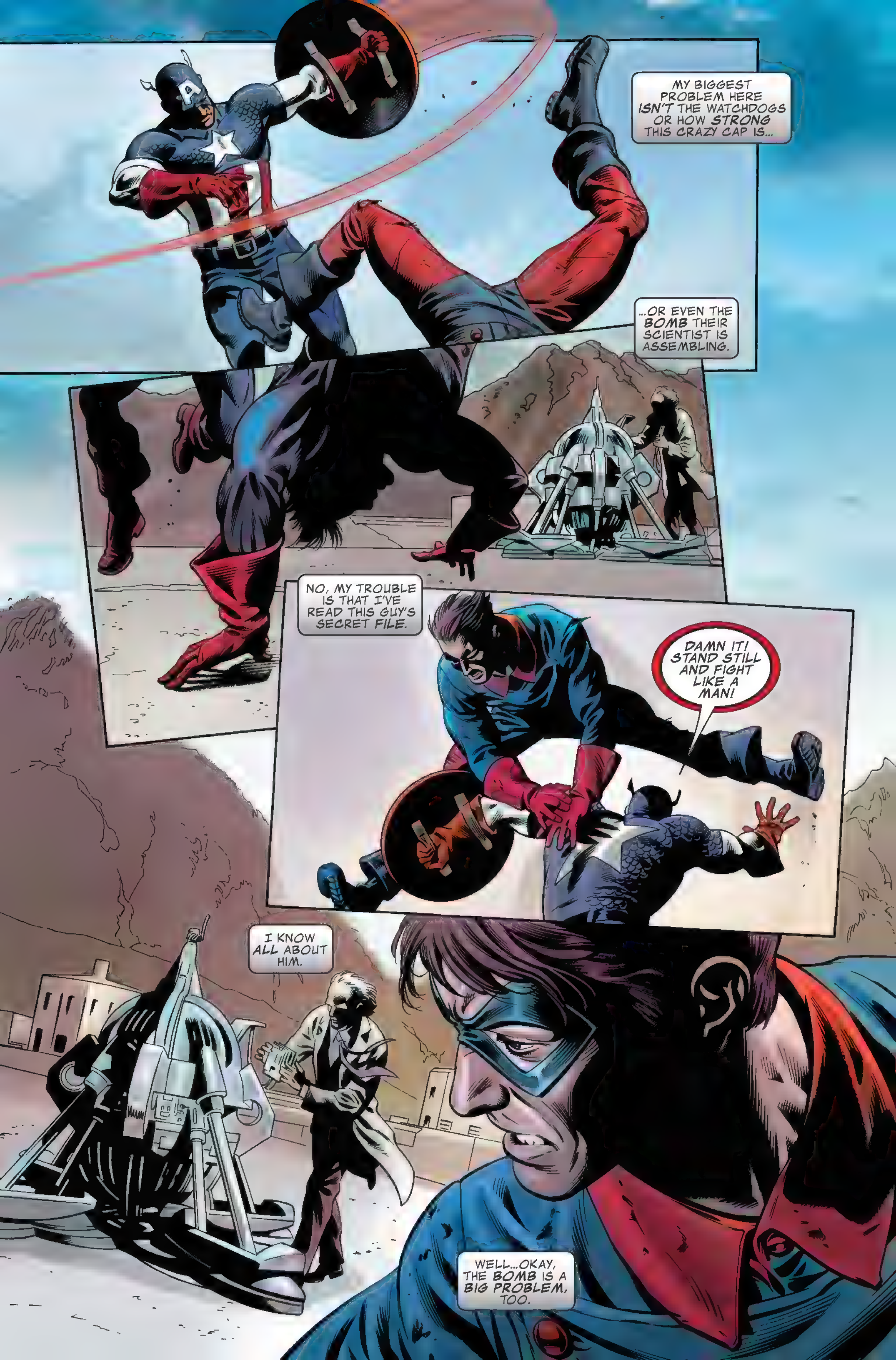

CLEARING THE DECK FOR THE MAIN ATTRACTION...
LEAVE HIM ALONE!
BACK OFF!
...BUT THEN, HE'S GOT THE SAME IDEA.
ALL OF YOU!
BUCKY IS MINE!
YEAH, YOU WISH, BOZO...
RAAAAAA!

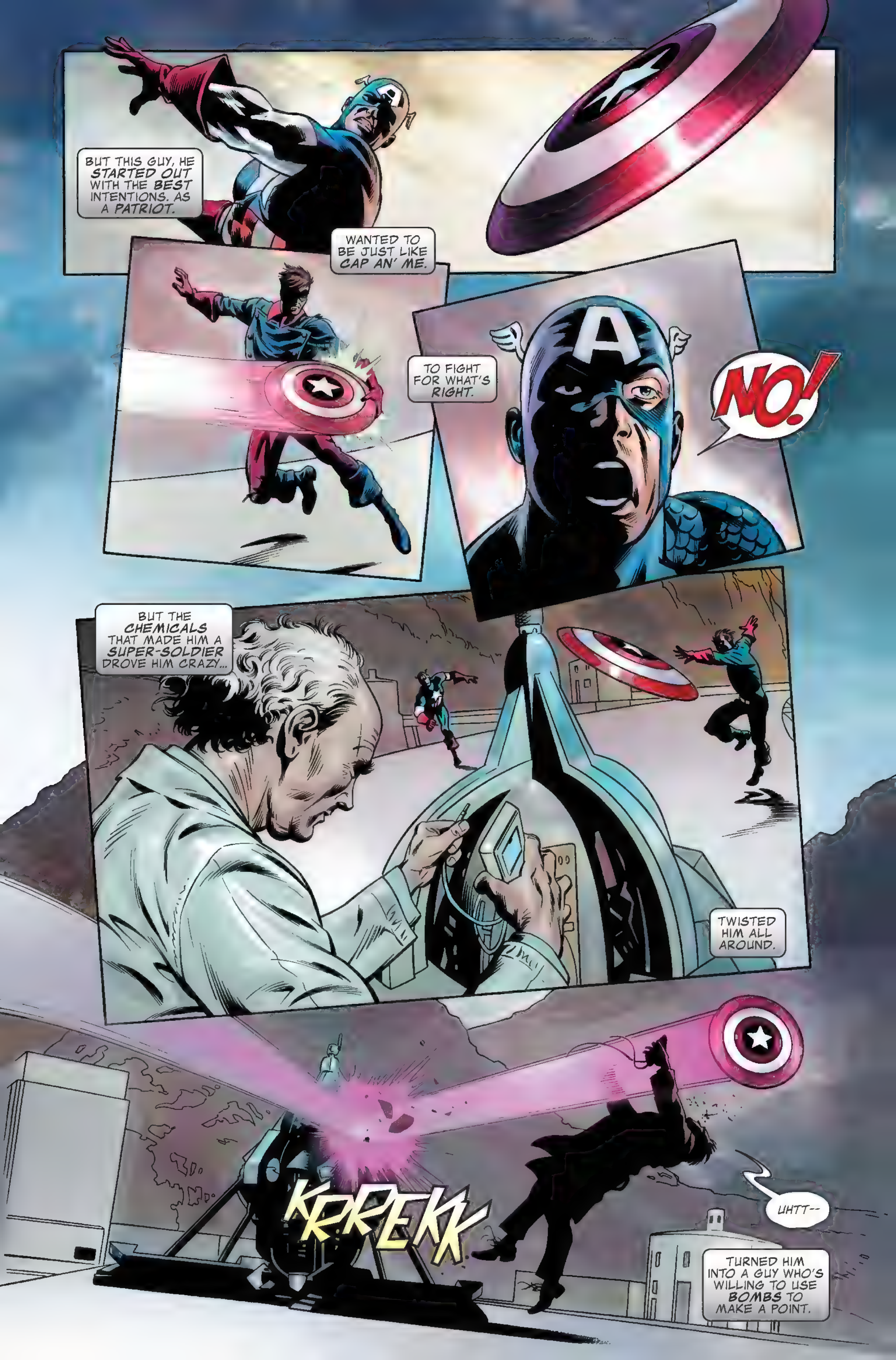

NOW, CALL IT IN... AND DON'T SAY *ANYTHING* TO WARN HIM OFF.
ALL RIGHT, I'M *DOIN'* IT, MAN...*EASE UP.*
SKYDOG, THIS IS *FREIGHT-HOPPER*...COME IN FOR PICK UP.
WE ARE GREEN FOR GO.
ROGER, FREIGHT-HOPPER. BE THERE IN TWO.
SEE? I DID JUST WHAT YOU--
THANKS.
NOW HAVE A *NICE* TRIP...
HEY-- WAIT!
AAAAAAAHHHHHH!

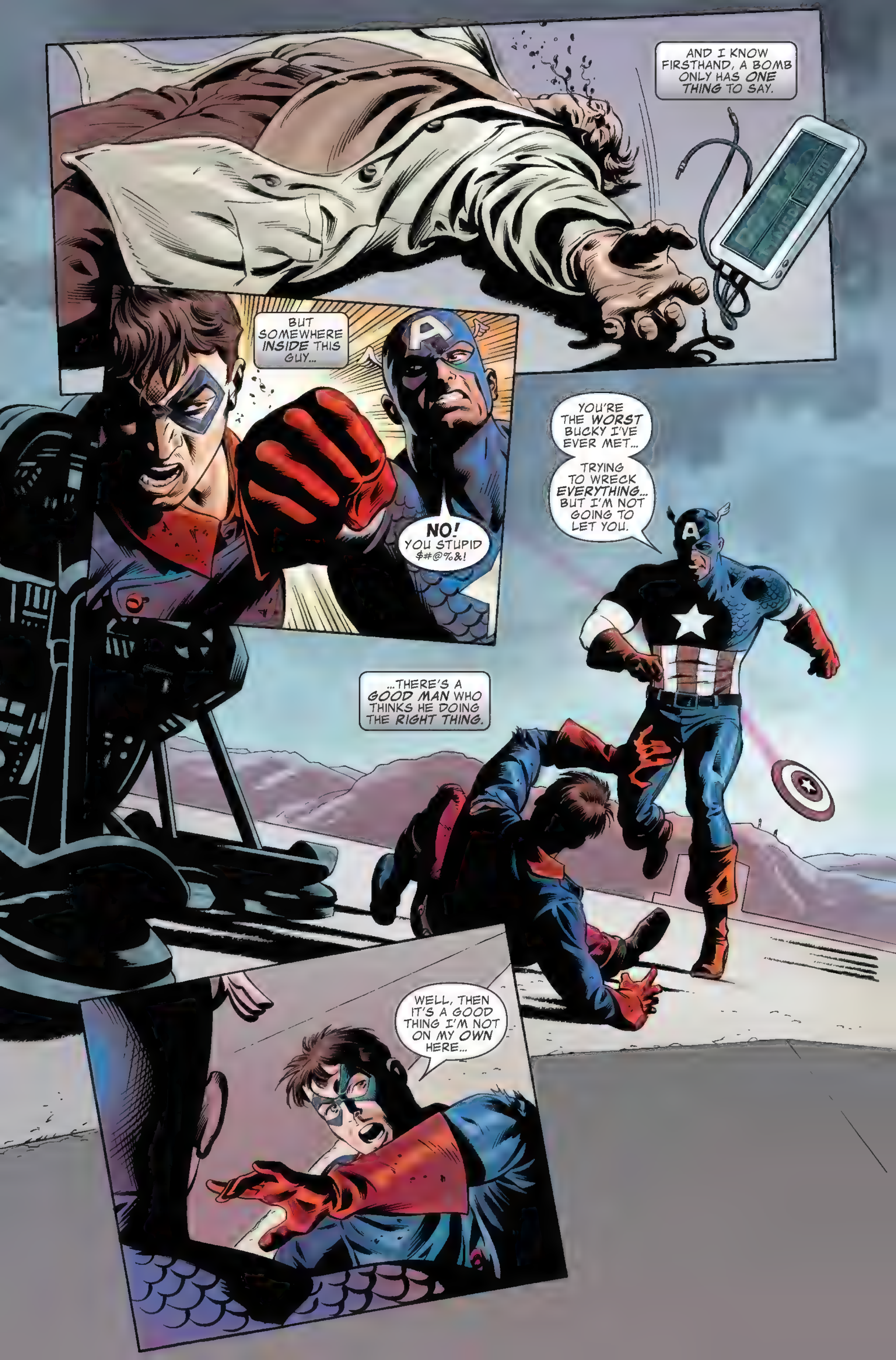

OKAY, OUR EXTRACTION HAS ARRIVED, DAVE...
...WE SET UP ON YOUR END?
YOU GOT IT...SETTING THE THROTTLE TO FULL SPEED...
THEN LET'S GO...
KLINK
...WE'VE GOT A RIDE TO HITCH!
WHAAA-HOOO!

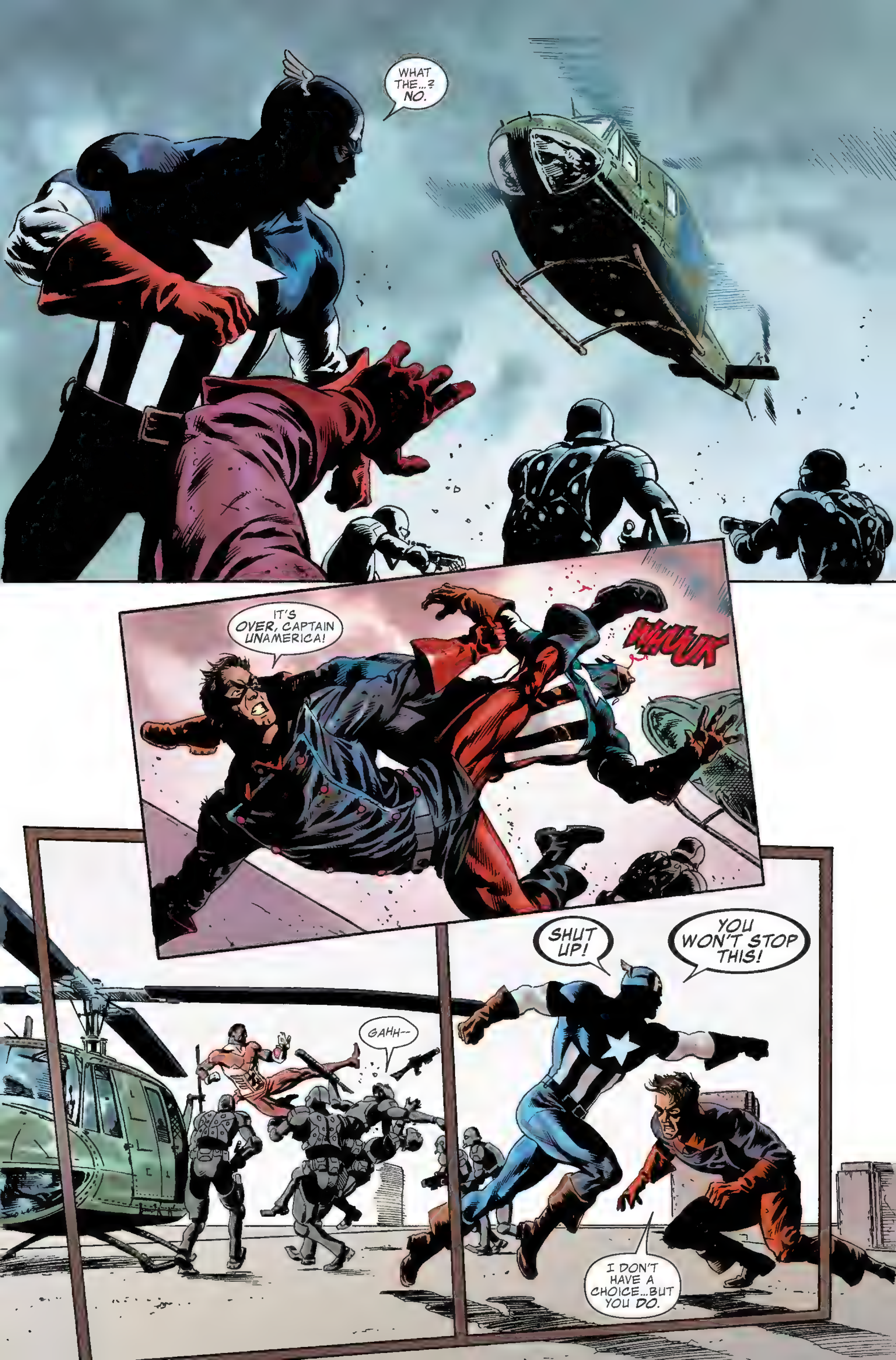

HEY! WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU--?
SORRY... OFFICIAL EX-AVENGERS BUSINESS--
KWAAM
--GONNA HAVE TO CONFISCATE THIS CHOPPER!
AW GOD...
...THERE SHE GOES!

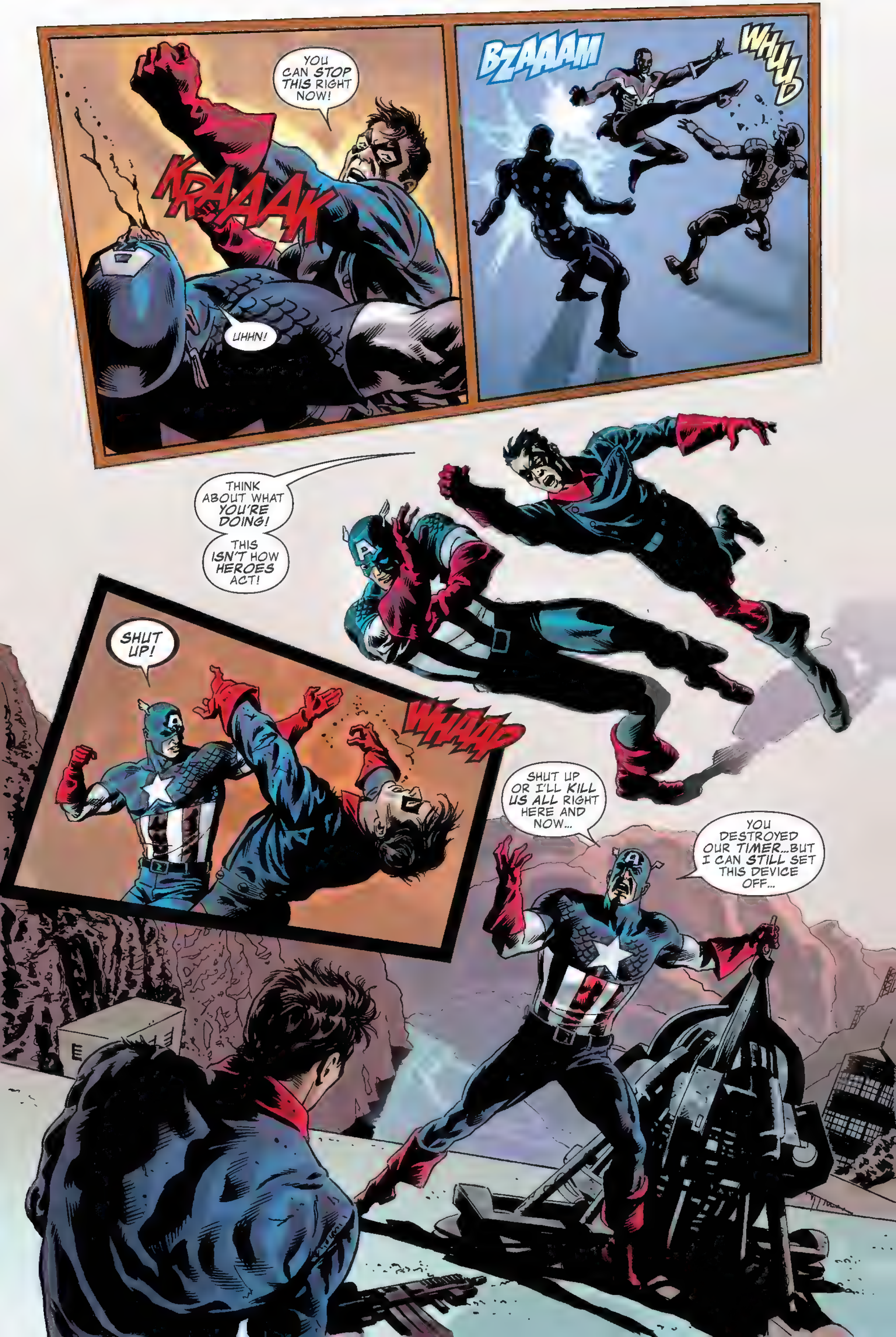

THAT'S SOMETHIN' I NEVER IMAGINED I'D SEE...
...BUT THEN, NEVER IMAGINED I'D BE HELPIN' THE FALCON STOP A BUNCHA DOMESTIC TERRORISTS, EITHER.
AND YOU'VE DONE GOOD WORK, BUT I NEED TO FIND SOMEWHERE SAFE TO DROP YOU...
...I GOTTA GET TO THE DAM IN A HURRY.
WELL, DON'T SLOW DOWN ON MY ACCOUNT...
UHHN!
SMAAK
"...SOUNDS LIKE CAP NEEDS HIS BACKUP IN A SERIOUS WAY."

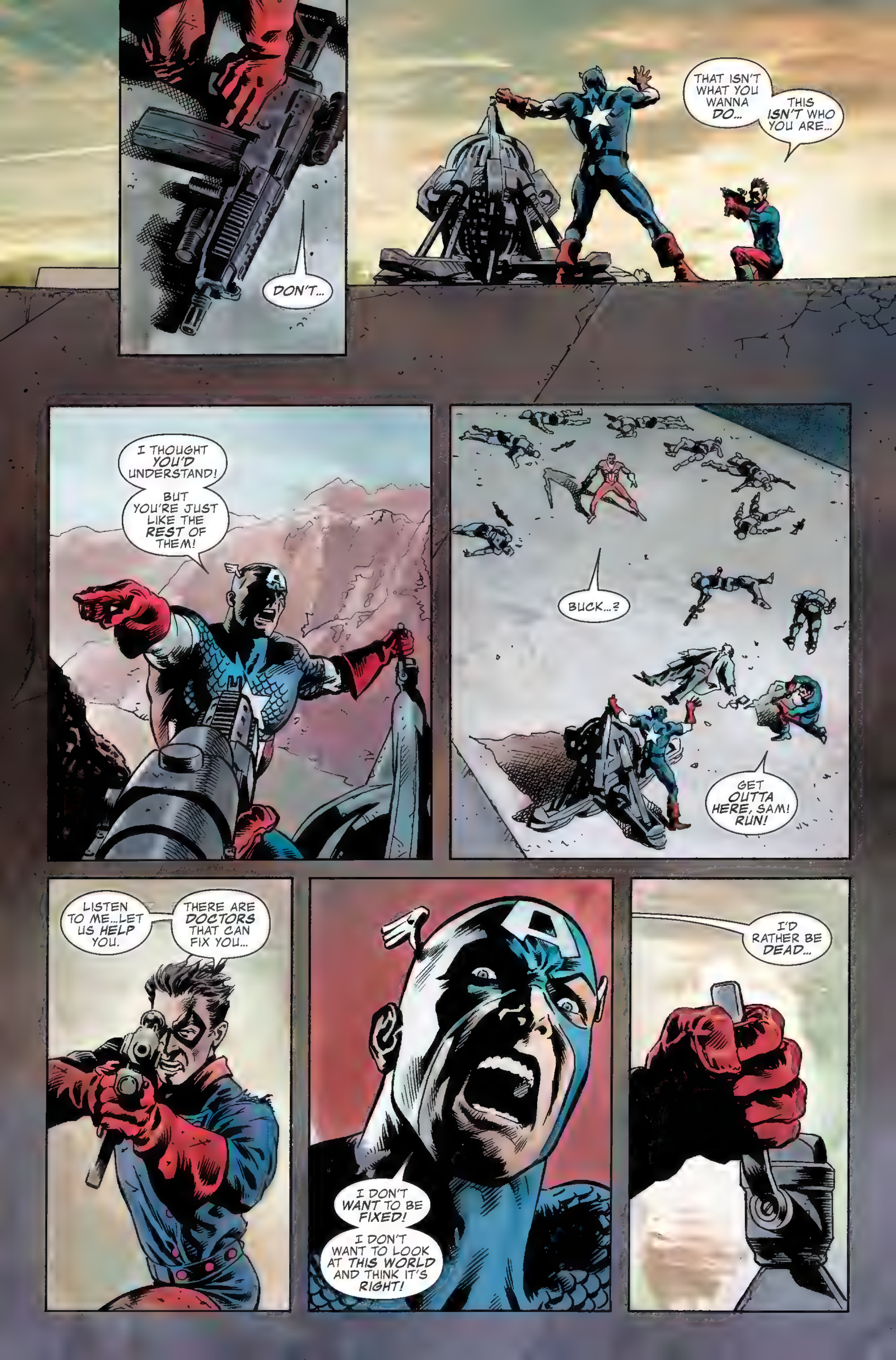

MY BIGGEST PROBLEM HERE ISN'T THE WATCHDOGS OR HOW STRONG THIS CRAZY CAP IS...
...OR EVEN THE BOMB THEIR SCIENTIST IS ASSEMBLING.
NO, MY TROUBLE IS THAT I'VE READ THIS GUY'S SECRET FILE.
DAMN IT! STAND STILL AND FIGHT LIKE A MAN!
I KNOW ALL ABOUT HIM.
WELL...OKAY, THE BOMB IS A BIG PROBLEM, TOO.

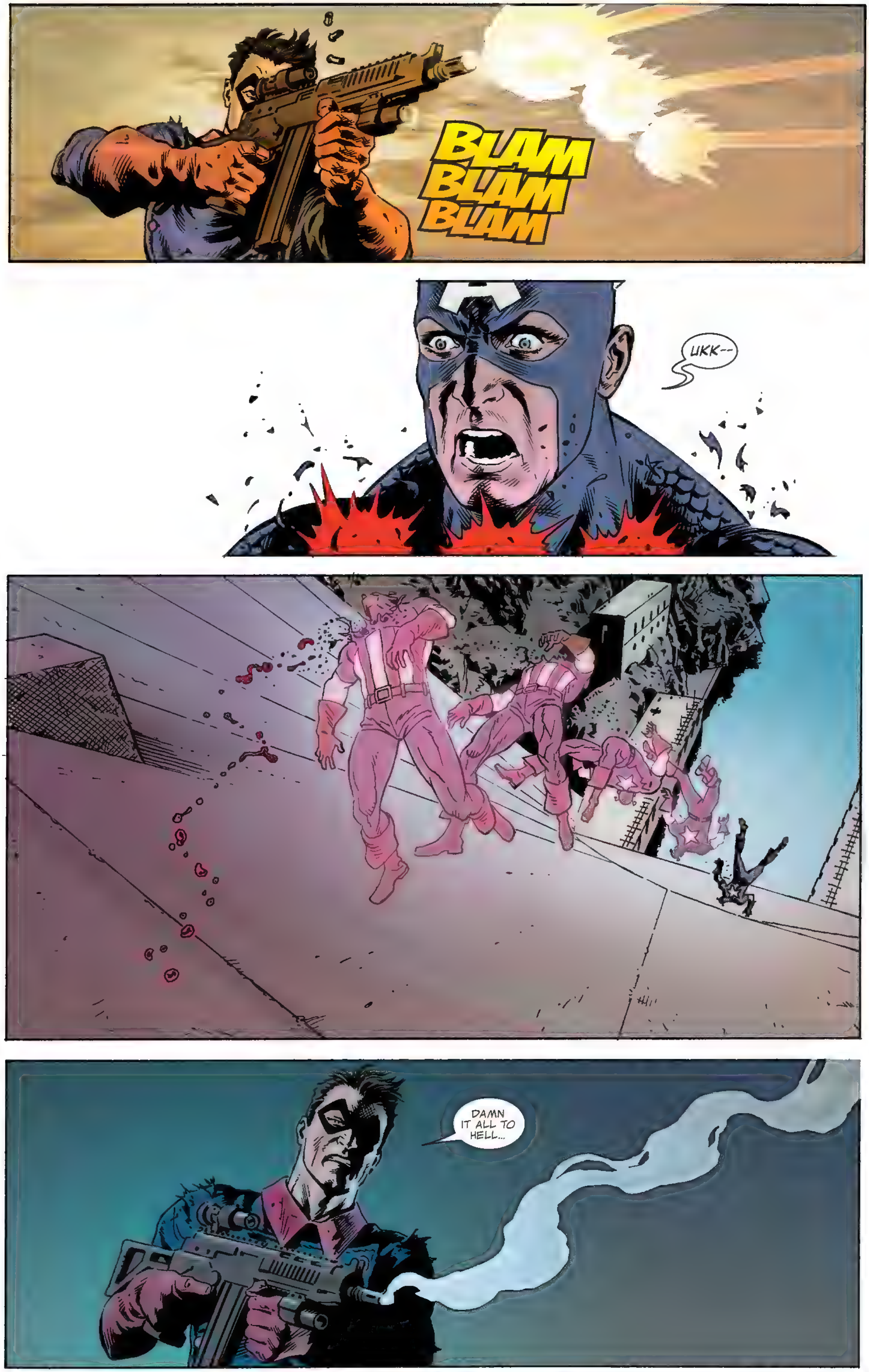

BUT THIS GUY, HE *STARTED OUT* WITH THE *BEST* INTENTIONS. AS A *PATRIOT.*
WANTED TO BE JUST LIKE *CAP AN' ME.*
TO FIGHT FOR WHAT'S *RIGHT.*
NO!
BUT THE *CHEMICALS* THAT MADE HIM A *SUPER-SOLDIER* DROVE HIM CRAZY...
TWISTED HIM ALL AROUND.
KRREKK
UHTT--
TURNED HIM INTO A GUY WHO'S WILLING TO USE *BOMBS* TO MAKE A POINT.

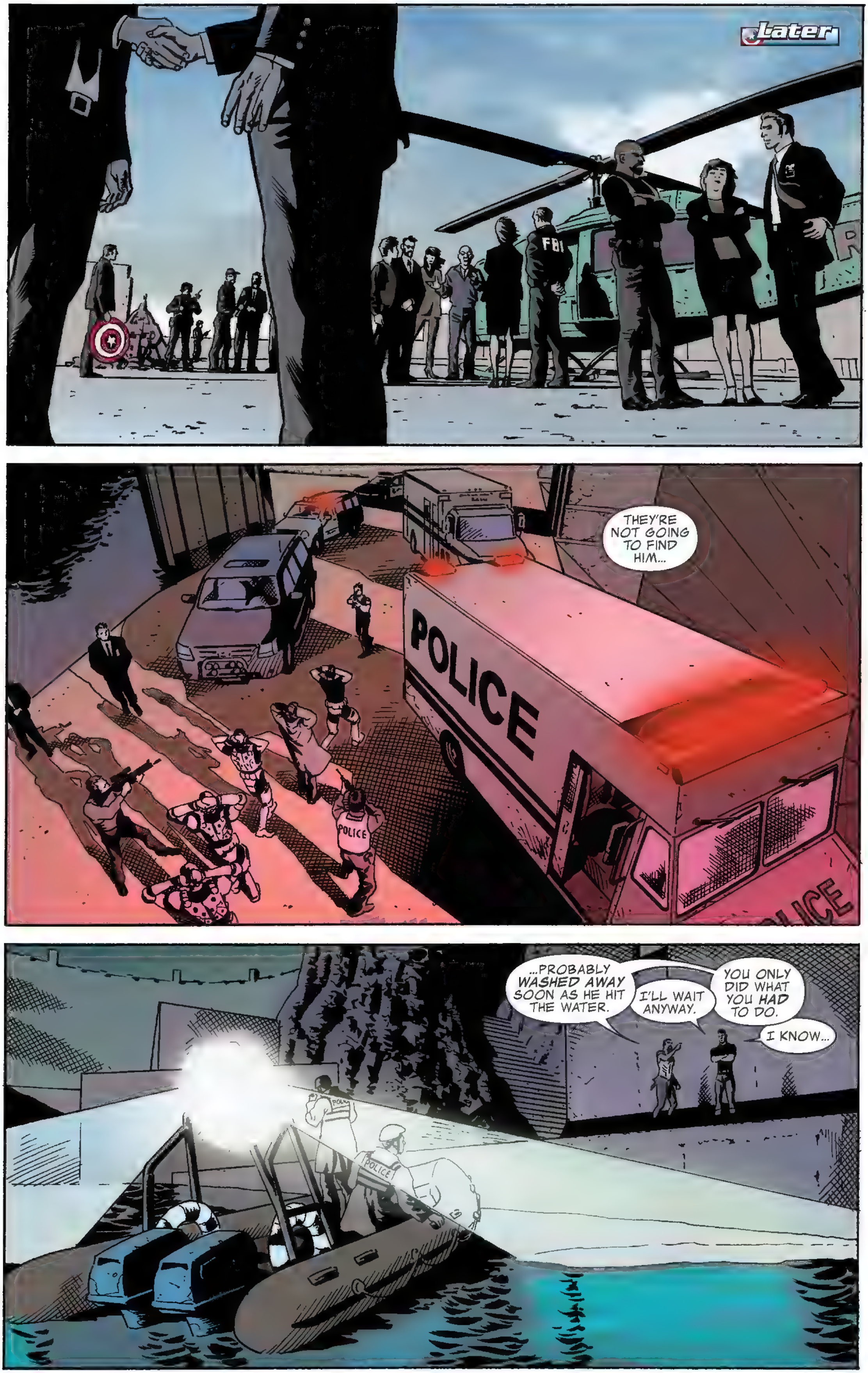

AND I KNOW FIRSTHAND, A BOMB ONLY HAS *ONE* THING TO SAY.
BUT SOMEWHERE *INSIDE* THIS GUY...
NO! YOU STUPID $#@%&!
YOU'RE THE *WORST* BUCKY I'VE EVER MET...
TRYING TO WRECK *EVERYTHING*... BUT I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU.
...THERE'S A *GOOD MAN* WHO THINKS HE DOING THE *RIGHT THING*.
WELL, THEN IT'S A GOOD THING I'M NOT ON MY *OWN* HERE...

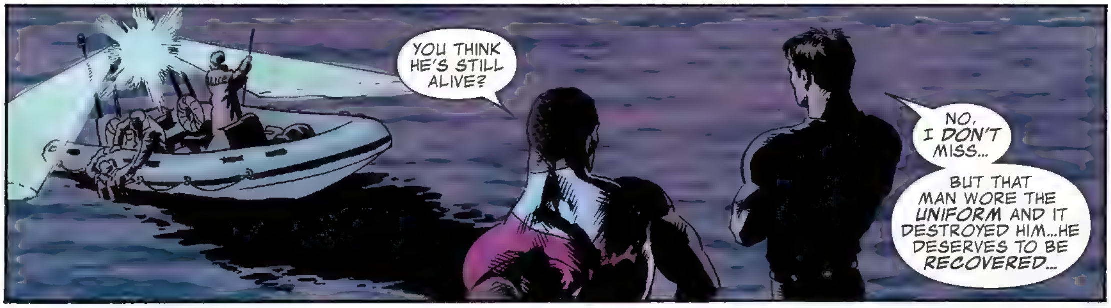

WHAT THE...? NO.
IT'S OVER, CAPTAIN UNAMERICA!
WHUUK
GAHH--
SHUT UP!
YOU WON'T STOP THIS!
I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE...BUT YOU DO.

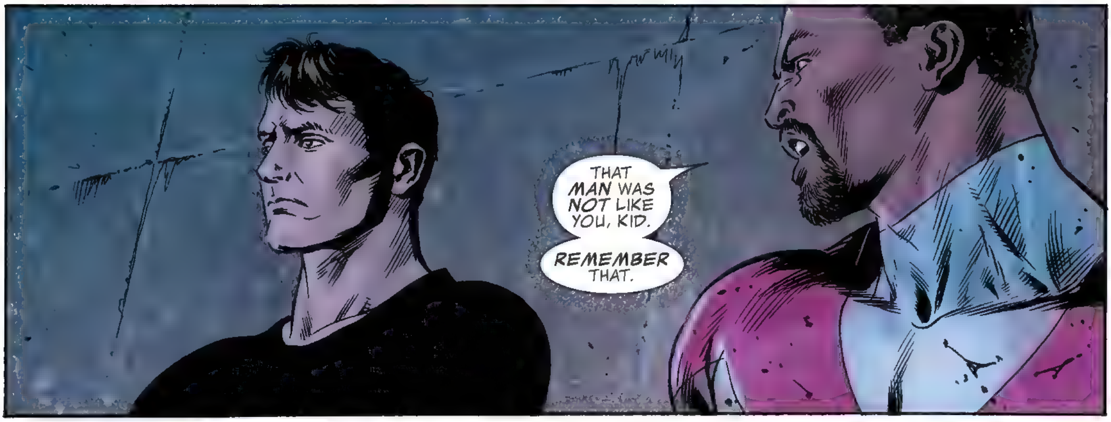

YOU CAN *STOP THIS* RIGHT NOW!
KRAAAK
UHHN!
BZAAAM
WHUUD
THINK ABOUT WHAT *YOU'RE DOING!*
THIS *ISN'T* HOW *HEROES* ACT!
SHUT UP!
WHAAP
SHUT UP OR I'LL *KILL US ALL* RIGHT HERE AND NOW...
YOU DESTROYED OUR *TIMER*...BUT I CAN *STILL* SET THIS DEVICE OFF...

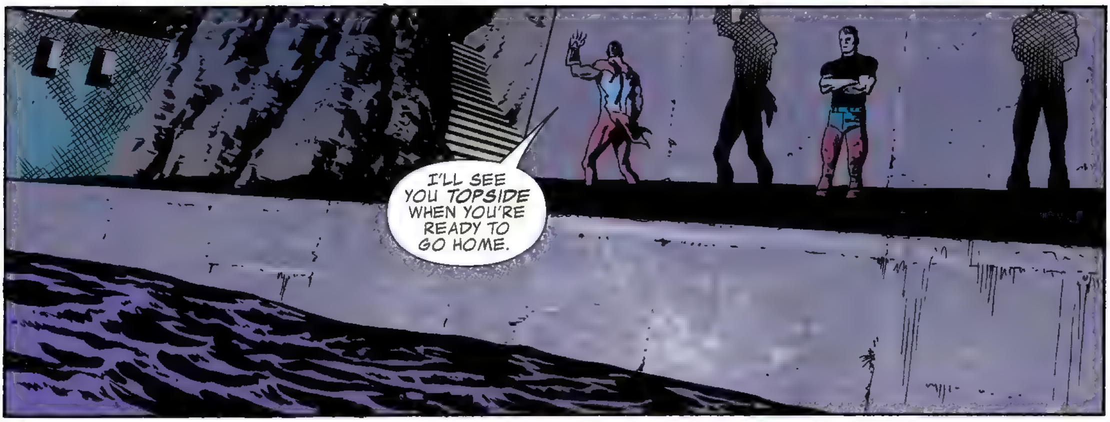

DON'T...
THAT ISN'T WHAT YOU WANNA DO...
THIS ISN'T WHO YOU ARE...
I THOUGHT YOU'D UNDERSTAND!
BUT YOU'RE JUST LIKE THE REST OF THEM!
BUCK...?
GET OUTTA HERE, SAM! RUN!
LISTEN TO ME...LET US HELP YOU.
THERE ARE DOCTORS THAT CAN FIX YOU...
I DON'T WANT TO BE FIXED!
I DON'T WANT TO LOOK AT THIS WORLD AND THINK IT'S RIGHT!
I'D RATHER BE DEAD...

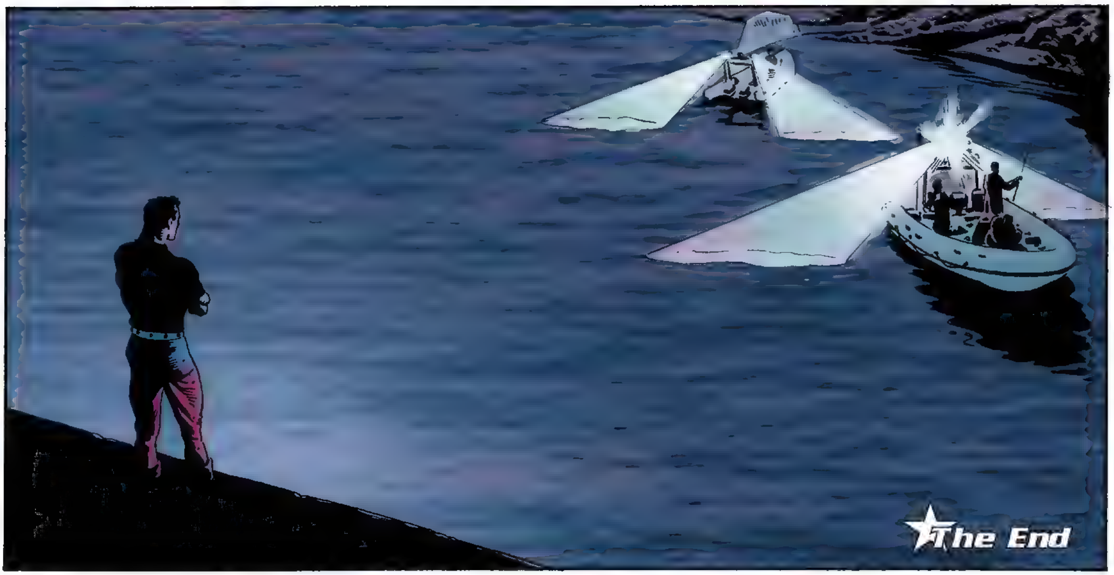

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
UKK--
DAMN IT ALL TO HELL...


Later
FBI
THEY'RE NOT GOING TO FIND HIM...
POLICE
POLICE
POLICE
...PROBABLY *WASHED AWAY* SOON AS HE HIT THE WATER.
I'LL WAIT ANYWAY.
YOU ONLY DID WHAT YOU *HAD* TO DO.
I KNOW...
POLICE


YOU THINK HE'S STILL ALIVE?
NO, I *DON'T* MISS...
BUT THAT MAN WORE THE *UNIFORM* AND IT DESTROYED HIM...HE DESERVES TO BE *RECOVERED*...


THAT *MAN* WAS *NOT* LIKE YOU, KID.
REMEMBER THAT.


I'LL SEE YOU *TOPSIDE* WHEN YOU'RE READY TO GO HOME.


The End

THE HEROIC AGE
CAPTAIN AMERICA®
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War
Is Begun
Congress Takes
Prompt Action

CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the man who was Captain America, Cap's former partner during World War II, James "Bucky" Barnes, has taken on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But not everybody is happy that Bucky, thought killed in the closing days of the war, is still alive.

NO ESCAPE
PART 1

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Captain America created by Joe Simon and Jack Kirby

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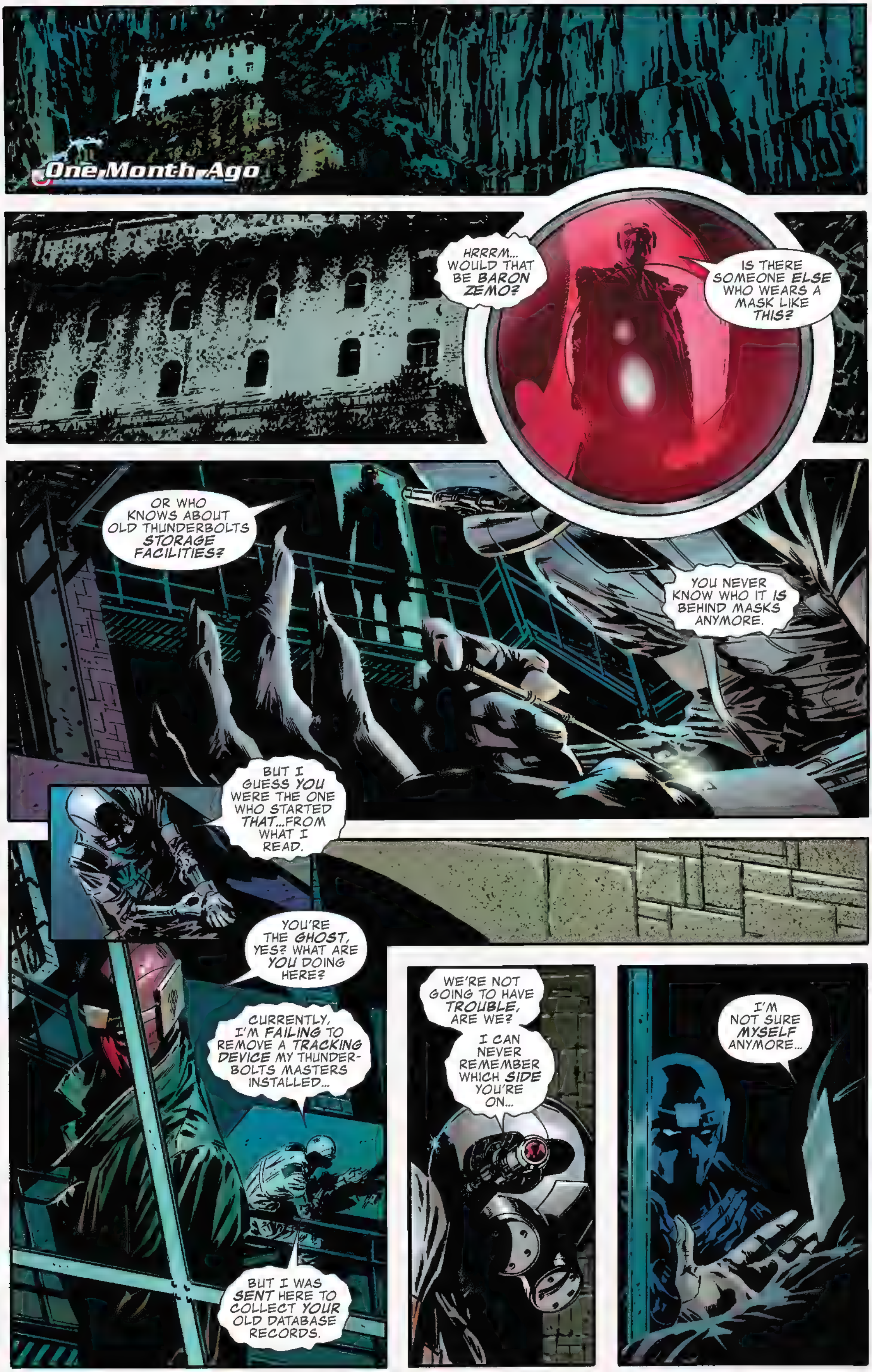
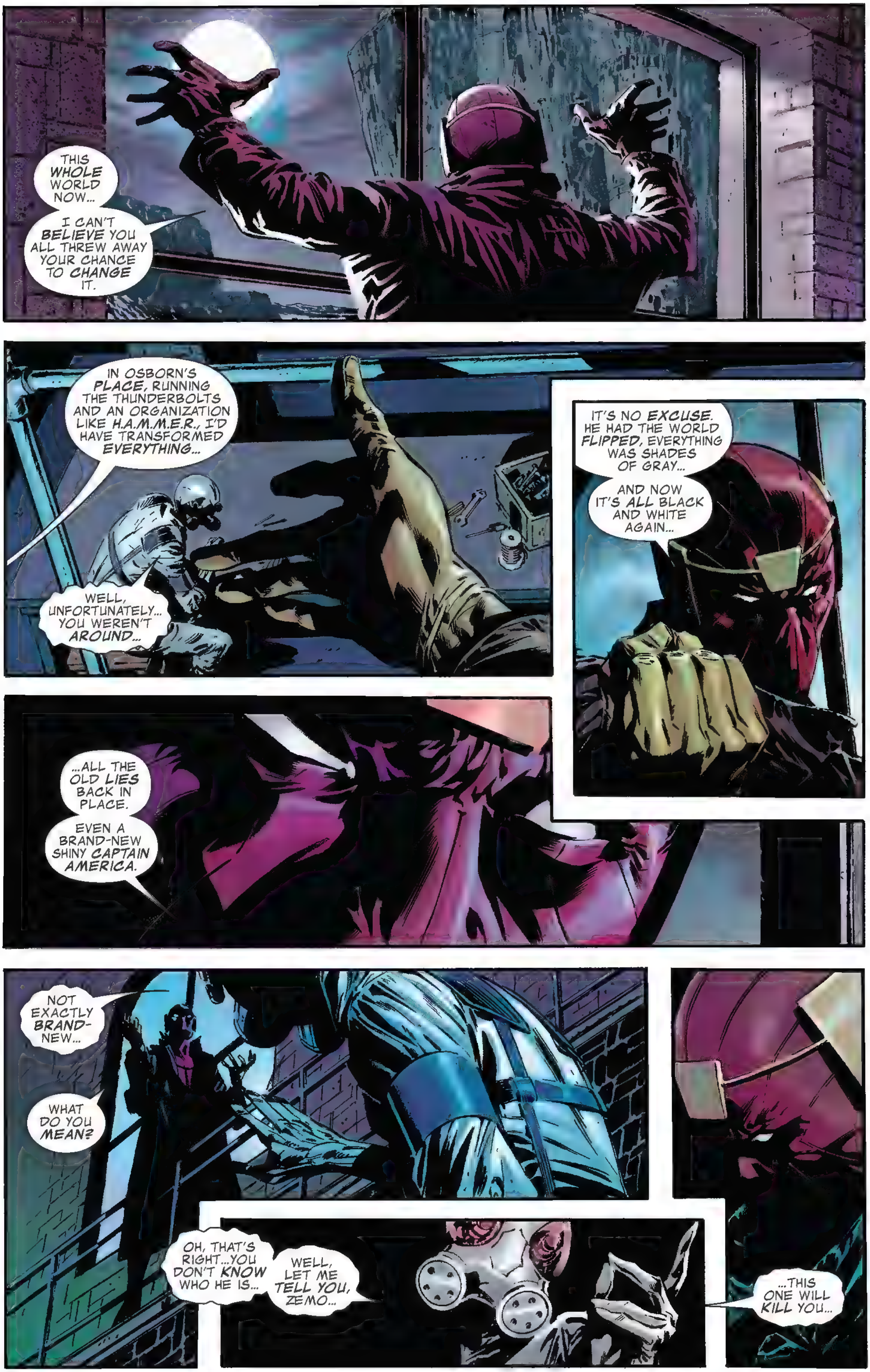
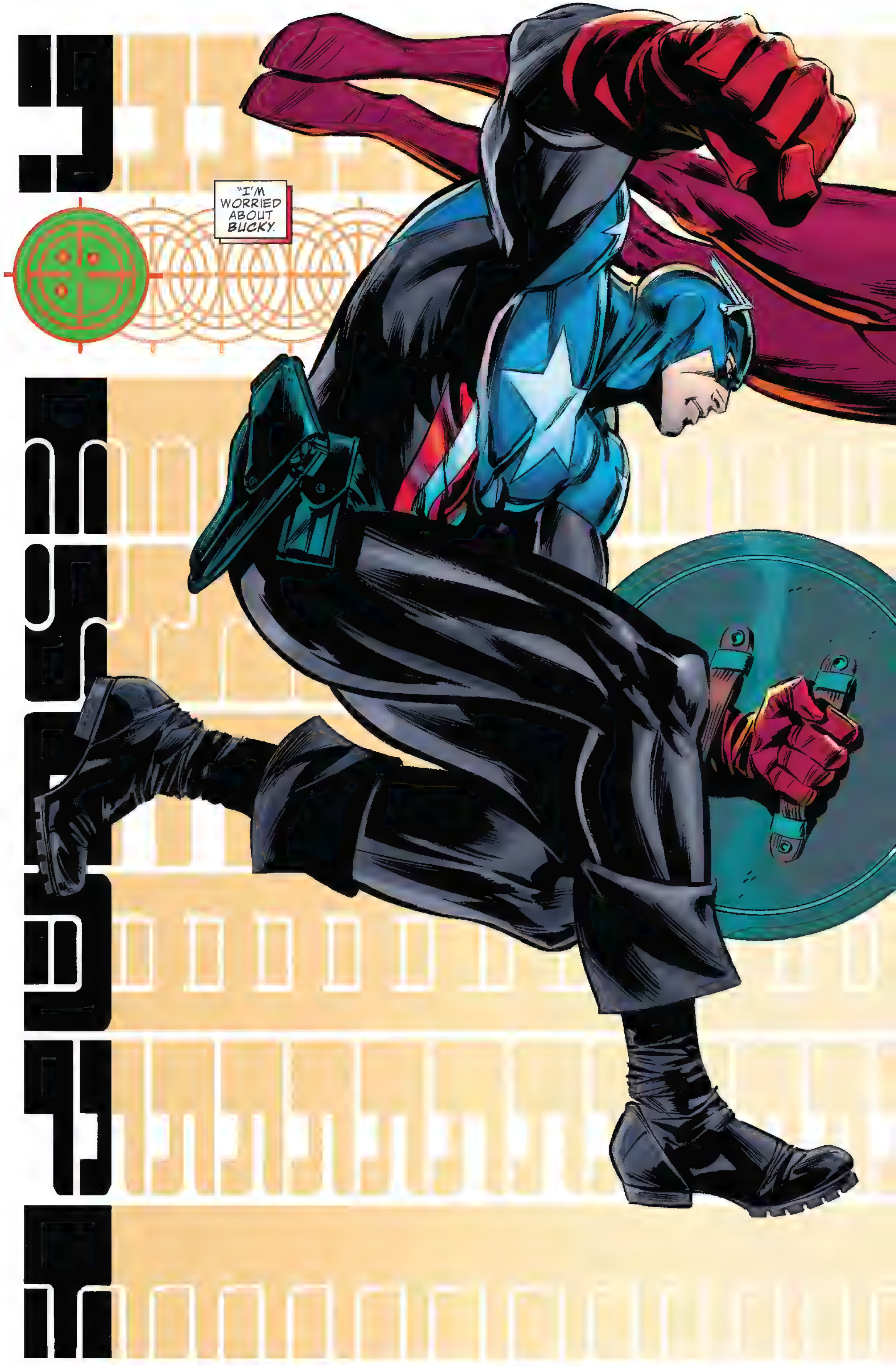
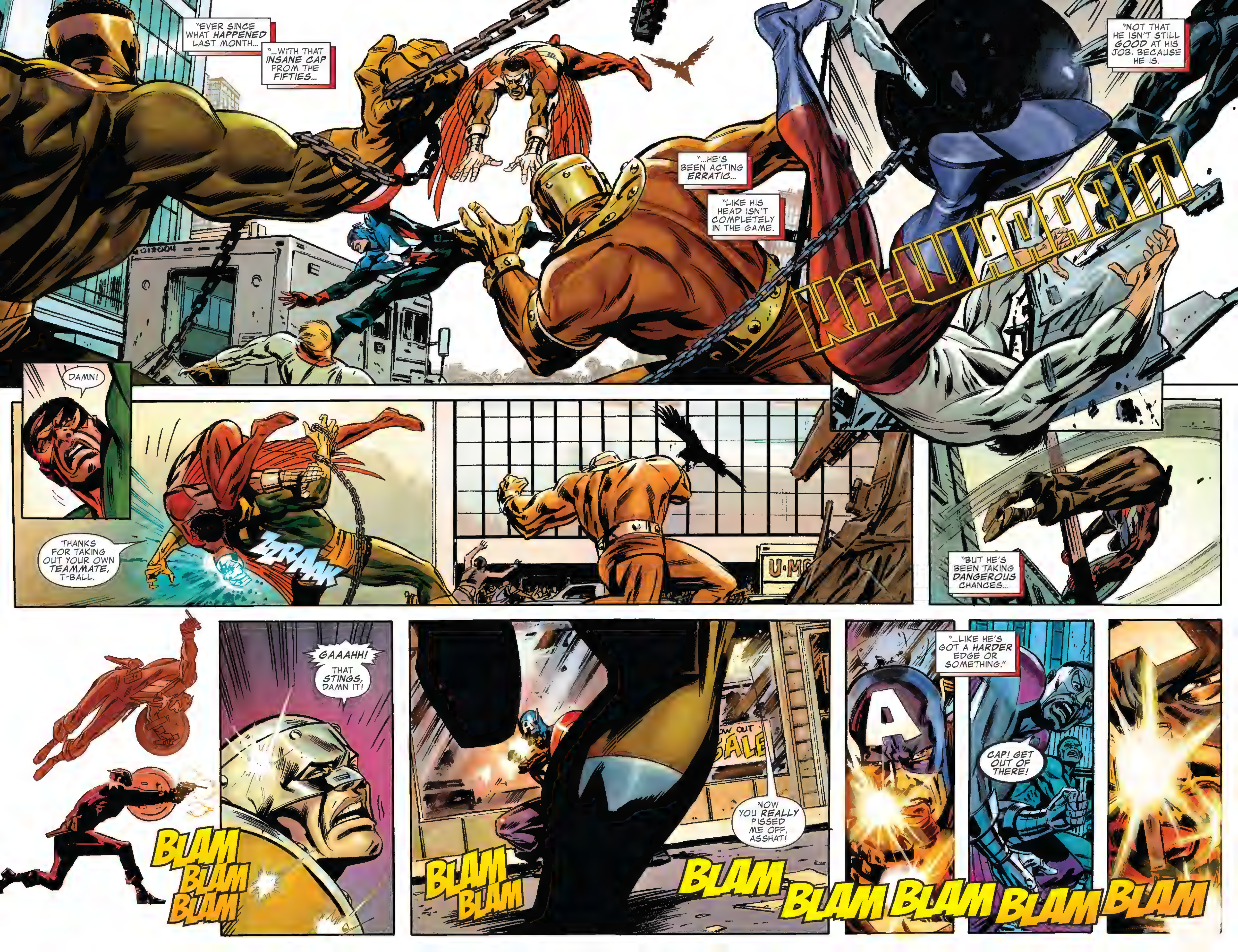
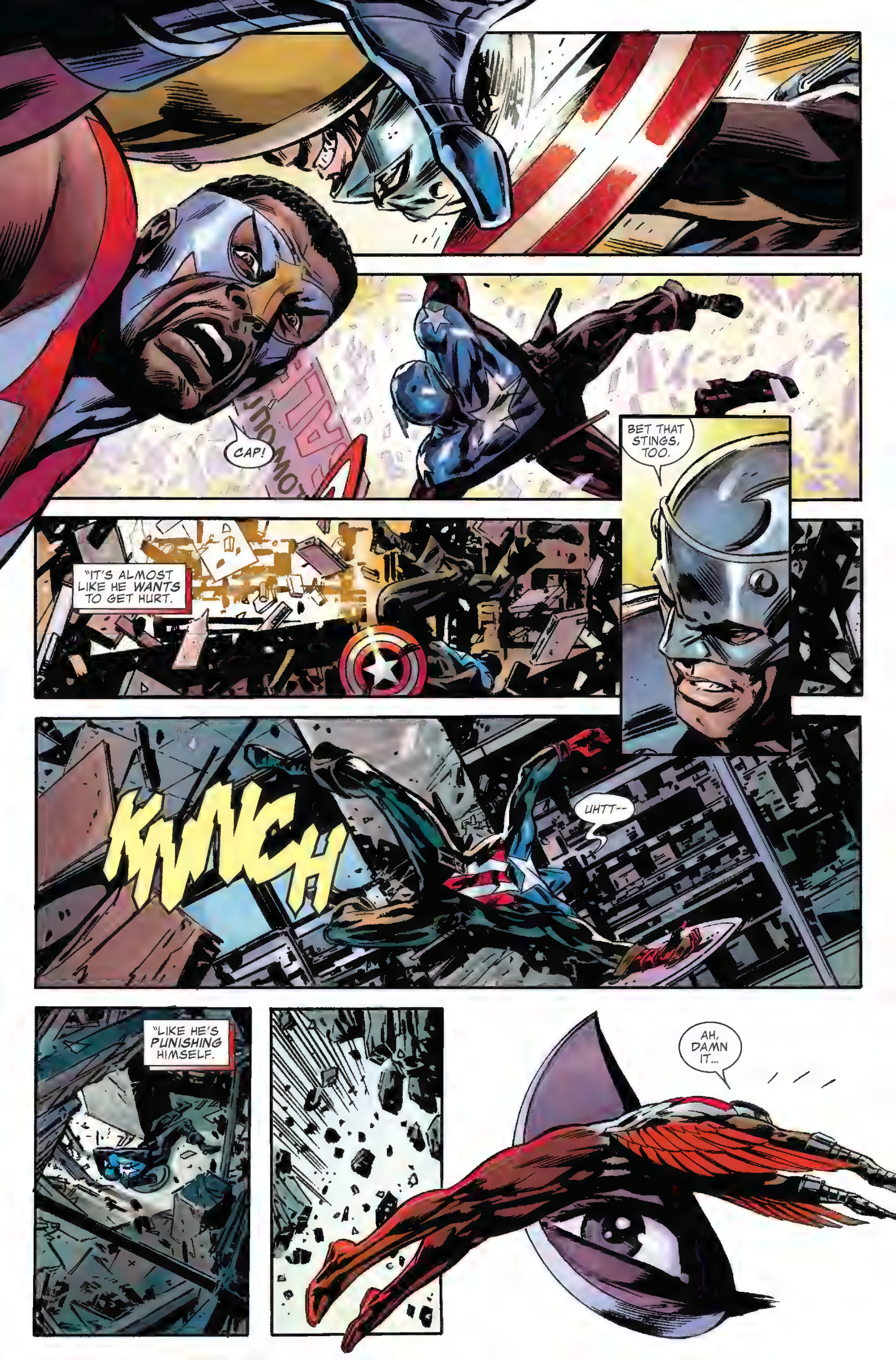
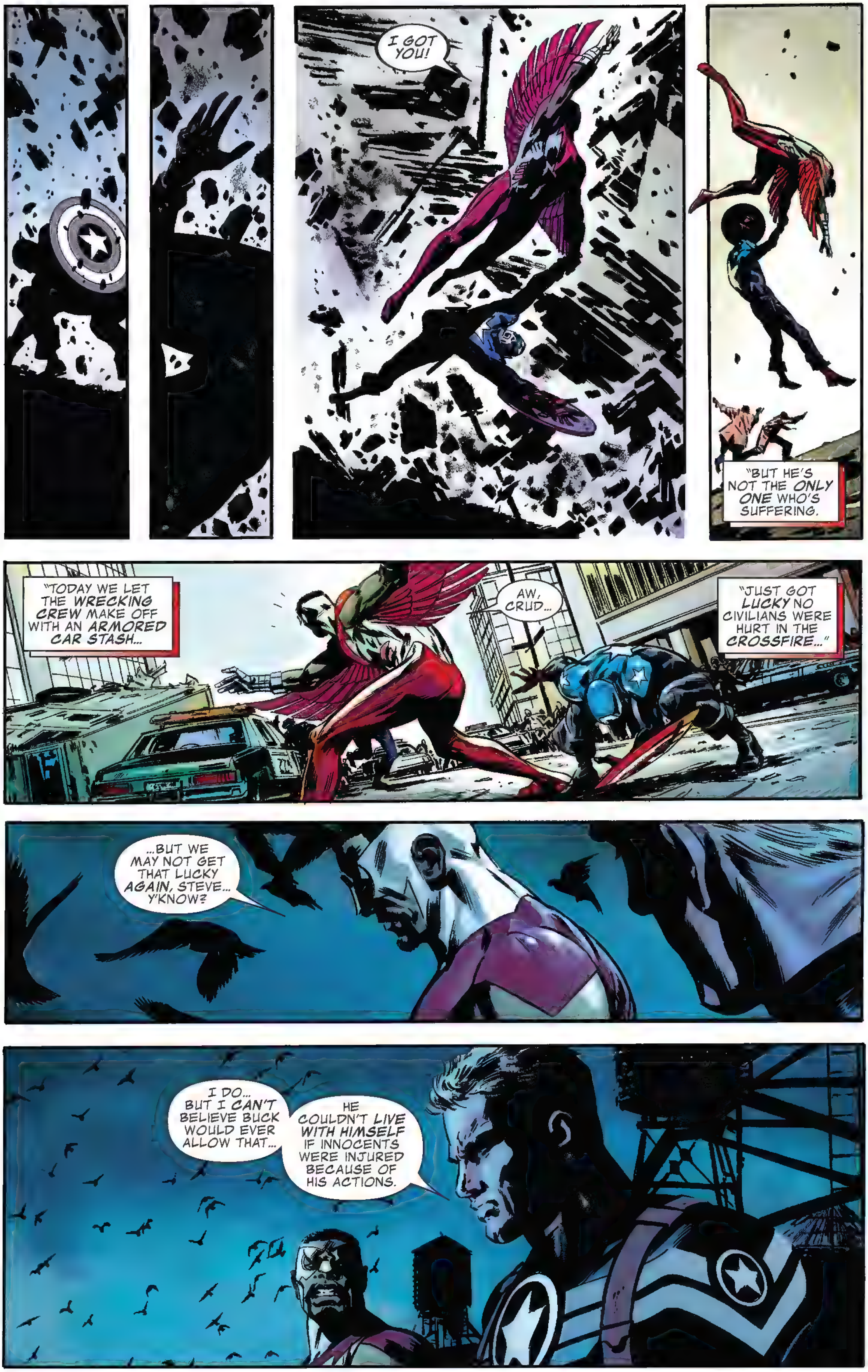

One Month Ago
HRRRM... WOULD THAT BE *BARON ZEMO?*
IS THERE SOMEONE *ELSE* WHO WEARS A MASK LIKE *THIS?*
OR WHO KNOWS ABOUT OLD THUNDERBOLTS *STORAGE FACILITIES?*
YOU NEVER KNOW WHO IT *IS* BEHIND MASKS ANYMORE.
BUT I GUESS *YOU* WERE THE ONE WHO STARTED *THAT*...FROM WHAT I READ.
YOU'RE THE *GHOST*, YES? WHAT ARE *YOU* DOING HERE?
CURRENTLY, I'M *FAILING* TO REMOVE A *TRACKING DEVICE* MY THUNDERBOLTS MASTERS INSTALLED...
BUT I WAS *SENT* HERE TO COLLECT *YOUR* OLD DATABASE RECORDS.
WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE *TROUBLE*, ARE WE?
I CAN NEVER REMEMBER WHICH *SIDE* YOU'RE ON...
I'M NOT SURE *MYSELF* ANYMORE...

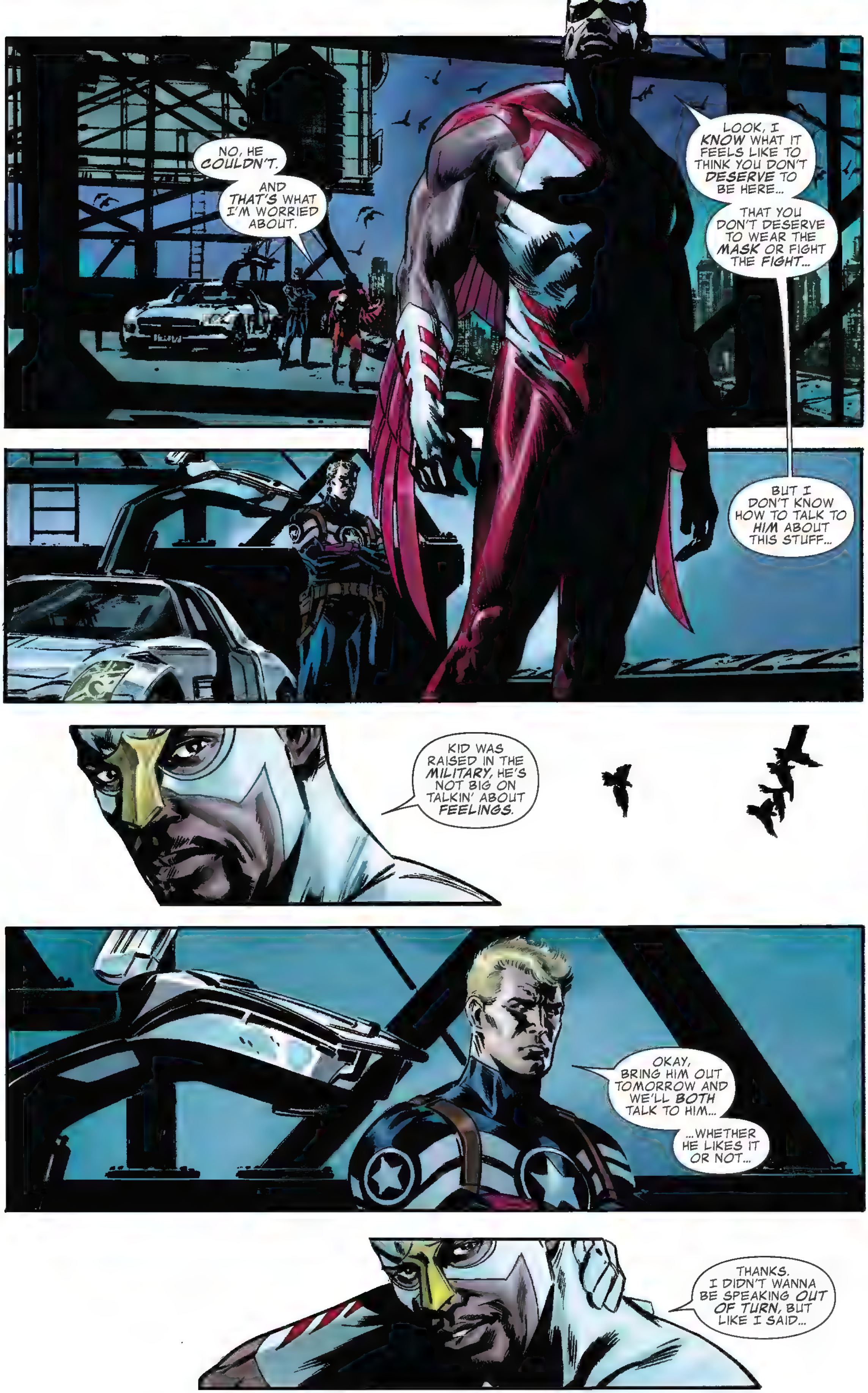

THIS *WHOLE* WORLD NOW...
I CAN'T *BELIEVE* YOU ALL THREW AWAY YOUR CHANCE TO *CHANGE* IT.
IN OSBORN'S *PLACE*, RUNNING THE THUNDERBOLTS AND AN ORGANIZATION LIKE *H.A.M.M.E.R.*, I'D HAVE TRANSFORMED *EVERYTHING*...
WELL, UNFORTUNATELY... YOU WEREN'T *AROUND*...
IT'S NO *EXCUSE*. HE HAD THE WORLD *FLIPPED*, EVERYTHING WAS SHADES OF GRAY...
AND NOW IT'S *ALL* BLACK AND WHITE AGAIN...
...ALL THE OLD *LIES* BACK IN PLACE.
EVEN A BRAND-NEW SHINY *CAPTAIN AMERICA*.
NOT EXACTLY *BRAND*-NEW...
WHAT DO YOU *MEAN?*
OH, THAT'S RIGHT...YOU DON'T *KNOW* WHO HE IS...
WELL, LET ME *TELL YOU*, ZEMO...
...THIS ONE WILL *KILL* YOU...

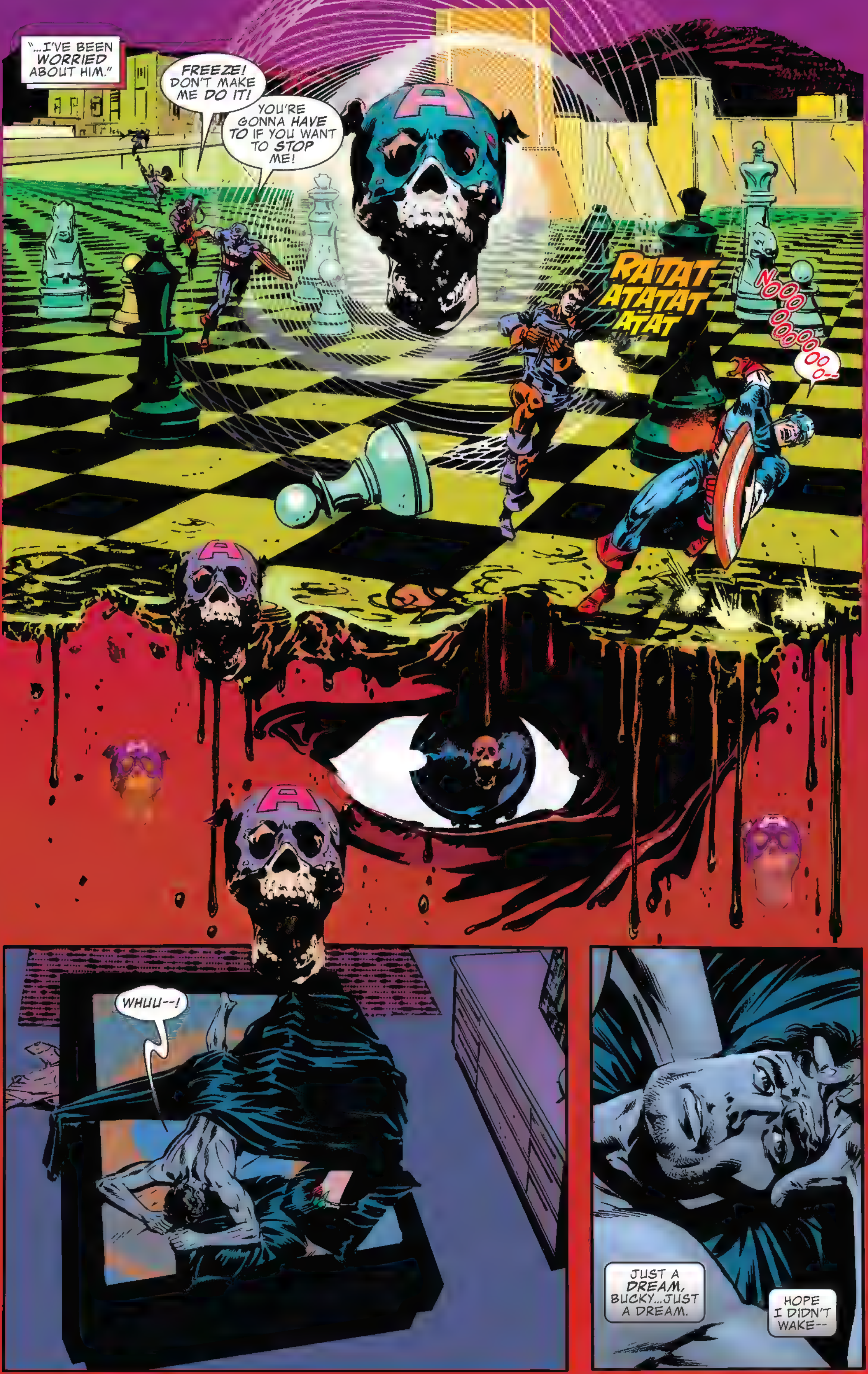

NO ESCAPE
"I'M WORRIED ABOUT BUCKY.

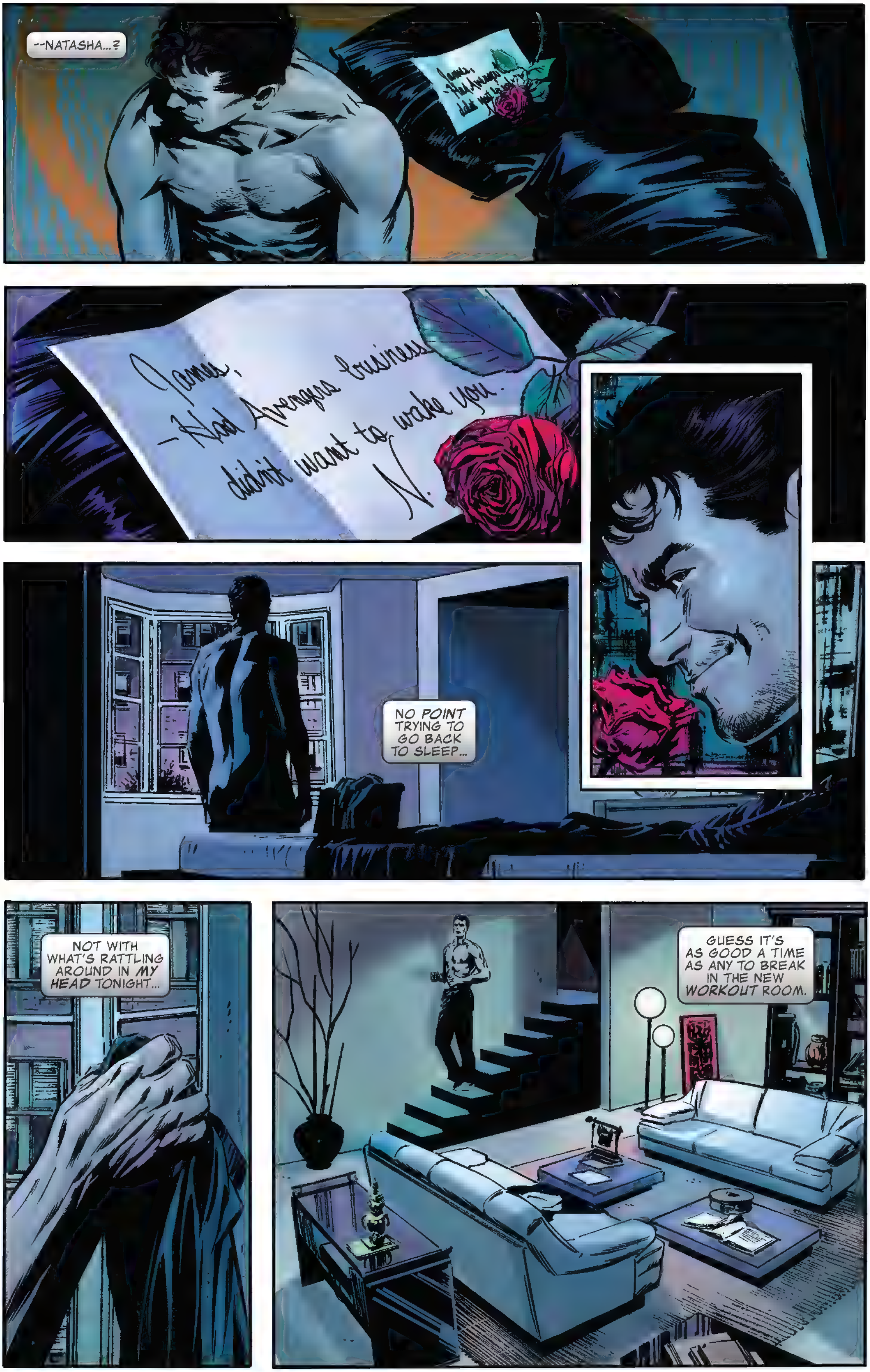

"EVER SINCE WHAT HAPPENED LAST MONTH...
"...WITH THAT INSANE CAP FROM THE FIFTIES...
"...HE'S BEEN ACTING ERRATIC...
"LIKE HIS HEAD ISN'T COMPLETELY IN THE GAME.
"NOT THAT HE ISN'T STILL GOOD AT HIS JOB, BECAUSE HE IS.
KA-WHOOOM!!
DAMN!
THANKS FOR TAKING OUT YOUR OWN TEAMMATE, T-BALL.
ZZRAAK
U-MC
"BUT HE'S BEEN TAKING DANGEROUS CHANCES...
BLAM BLAM BLAM
GAAAHH! THAT STINGS, DAMN IT!
BLAM BLAM
OW OUT SALE
NOW YOU REALLY PISSED ME OFF, ASSHAT!
"...LIKE HE'S GOT A HARDER EDGE OR SOMETHING."
CAP! GET OUT OF THERE!
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM

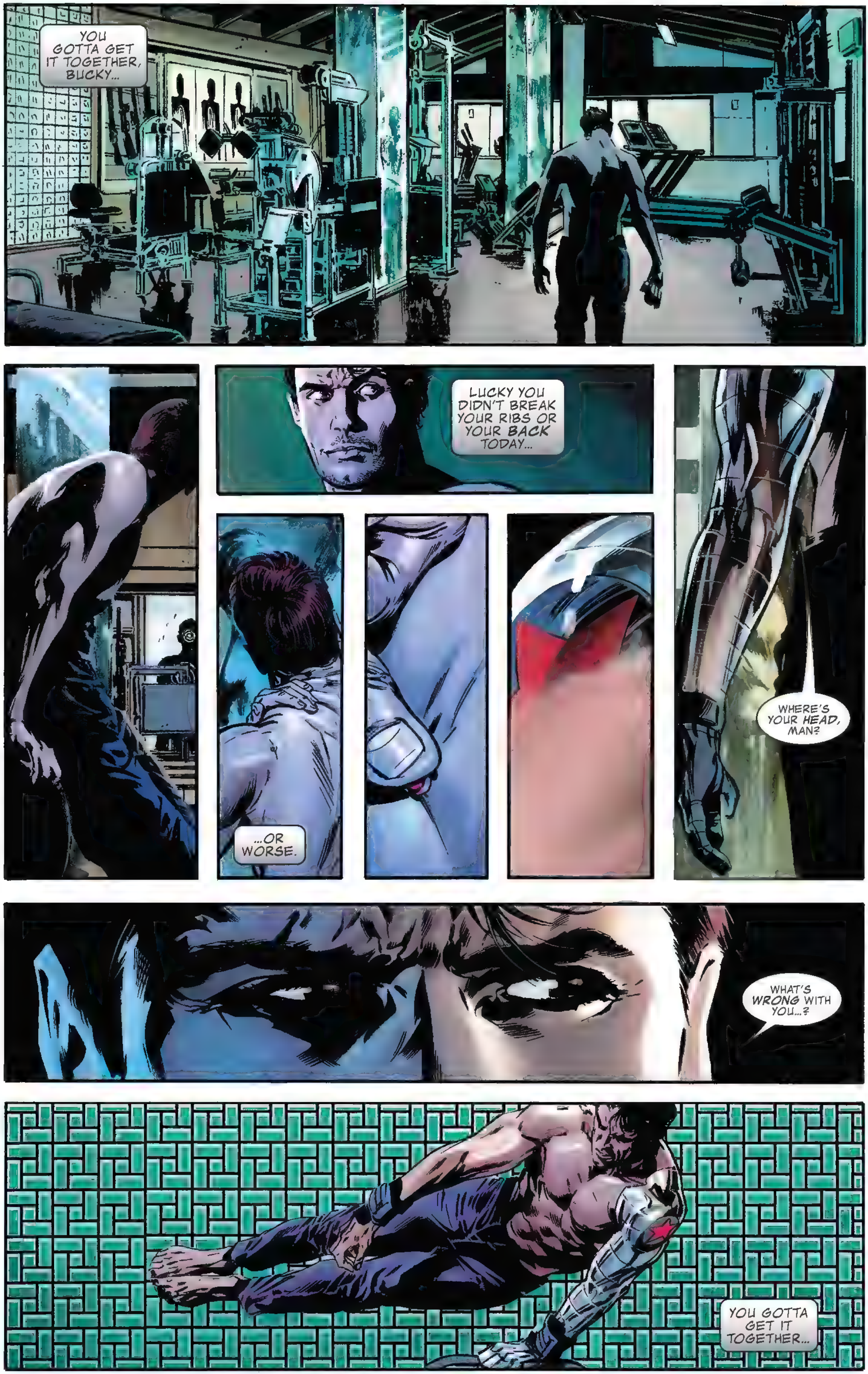

CAP!
BET THAT STINGS, TOO.
"IT'S ALMOST LIKE HE *WANTS* TO GET HURT.
KRNCH
UHTT--
"LIKE HE'S *PUNISHING* HIMSELF.
AH, DAMN IT...

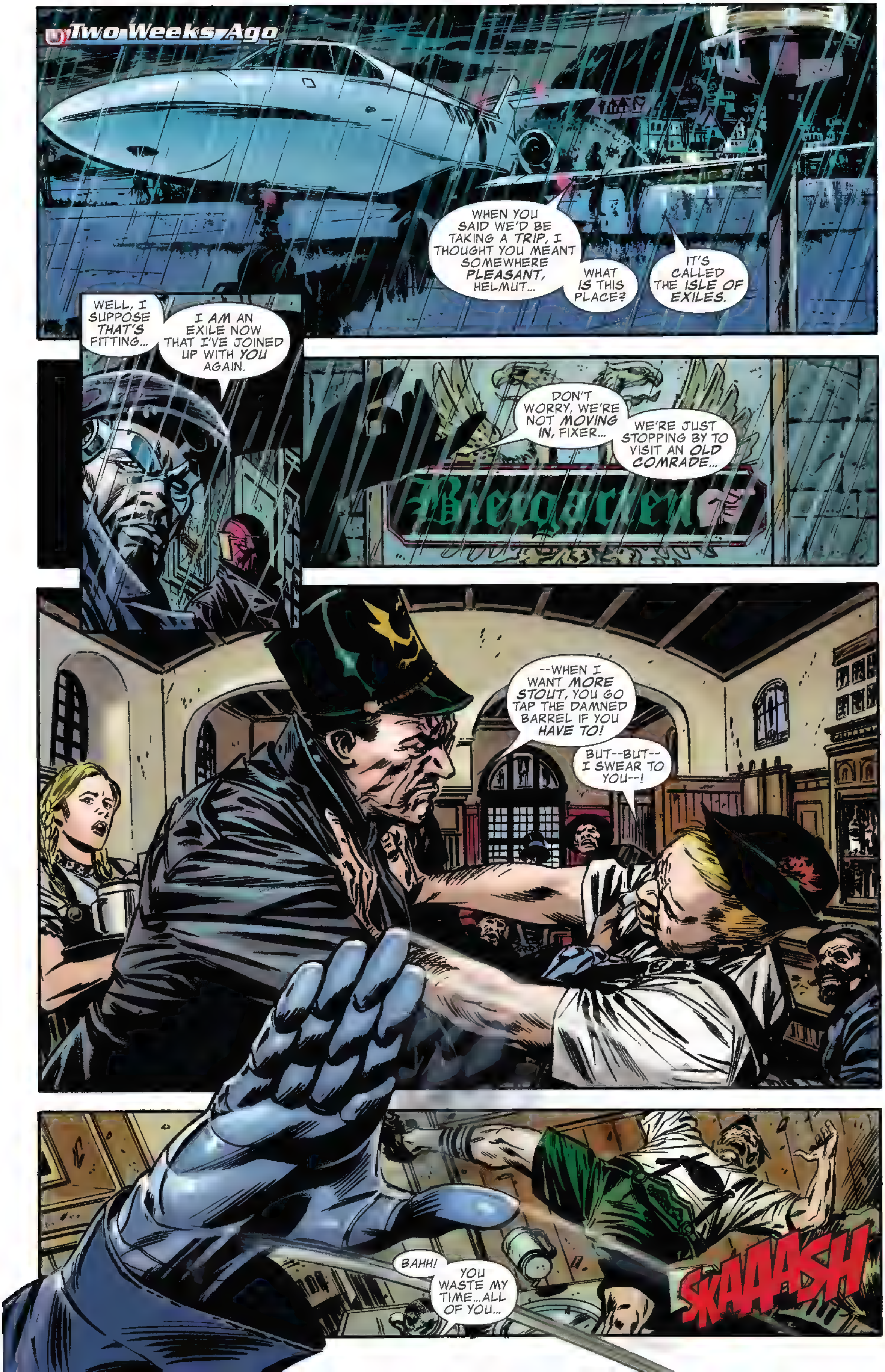

I GOT YOU!
"BUT HE'S NOT THE *ONLY ONE* WHO'S SUFFERING.
"TODAY WE LET THE *WRECKING CREW* MAKE OFF WITH AN *ARMORED CAR STASH*...
AW, CRUD...
"JUST GOT *LUCKY* NO CIVILIANS WERE HURT IN THE *CROSSFIRE*..."
...BUT WE MAY NOT GET THAT LUCKY *AGAIN*, STEVE... Y'KNOW?
I DO... BUT I *CAN'T* BELIEVE BUCK WOULD EVER ALLOW THAT...
HE COULDN'T *LIVE WITH HIMSELF* IF INNOCENTS WERE INJURED BECAUSE OF HIS ACTIONS.

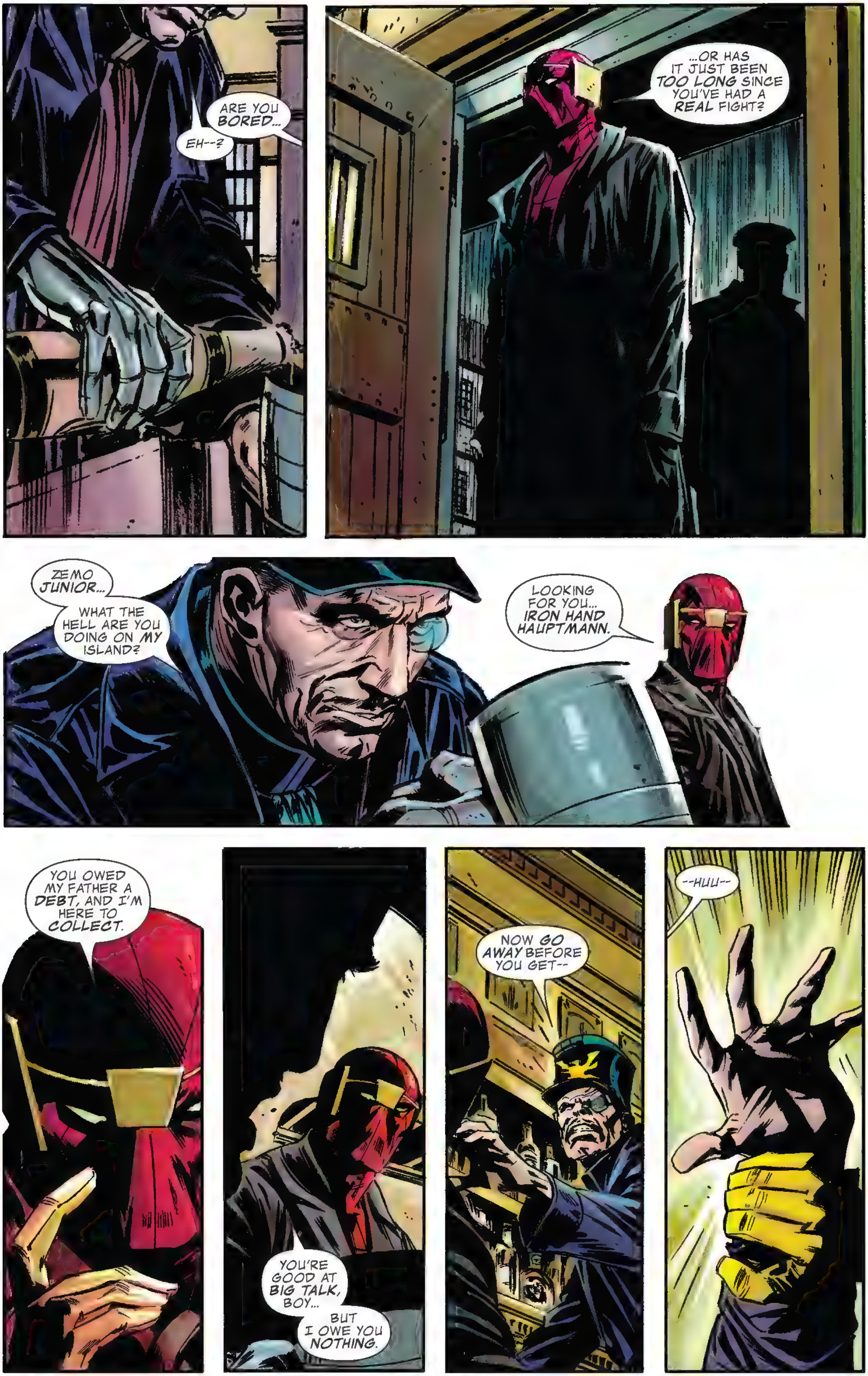

NO, HE *COULDN'T.*
AND *THAT'S* WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT.
LOOK, I *KNOW* WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO THINK YOU DON'T *DESERVE* TO BE HERE...
THAT YOU DON'T DESERVE TO WEAR THE *MASK* OR FIGHT THE *FIGHT...*
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TALK TO *HIM* ABOUT THIS STUFF...
KID WAS RAISED IN THE *MILITARY,* HE'S NOT BIG ON TALKIN' ABOUT *FEELINGS.*
OKAY, BRING HIM OUT TOMORROW AND WE'LL *BOTH* TALK TO HIM...
...WHETHER HE LIKES IT OR NOT...
THANKS. I DIDN'T WANNA BE SPEAKING *OUT OF TURN,* BUT LIKE I SAID...

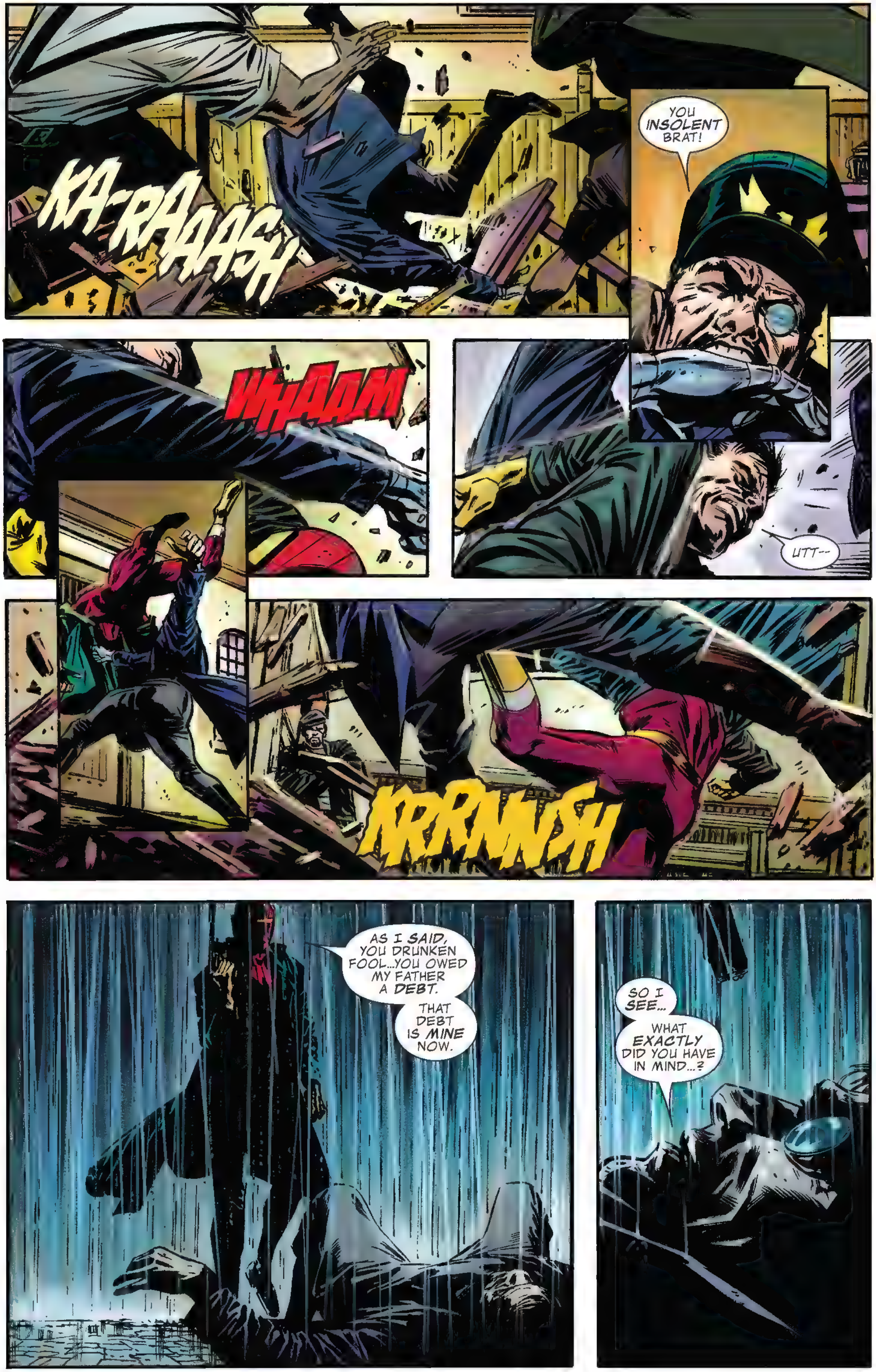

"...I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT HIM."
FREEZE! DON'T MAKE ME DO IT!
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO IF YOU WANT TO STOP ME!
RATAT ATATAT ATAT
NOOOOOOOO--
WHUU--!
JUST A DREAM, BUCKY...JUST A DREAM.
HOPE I DIDN'T WAKE--

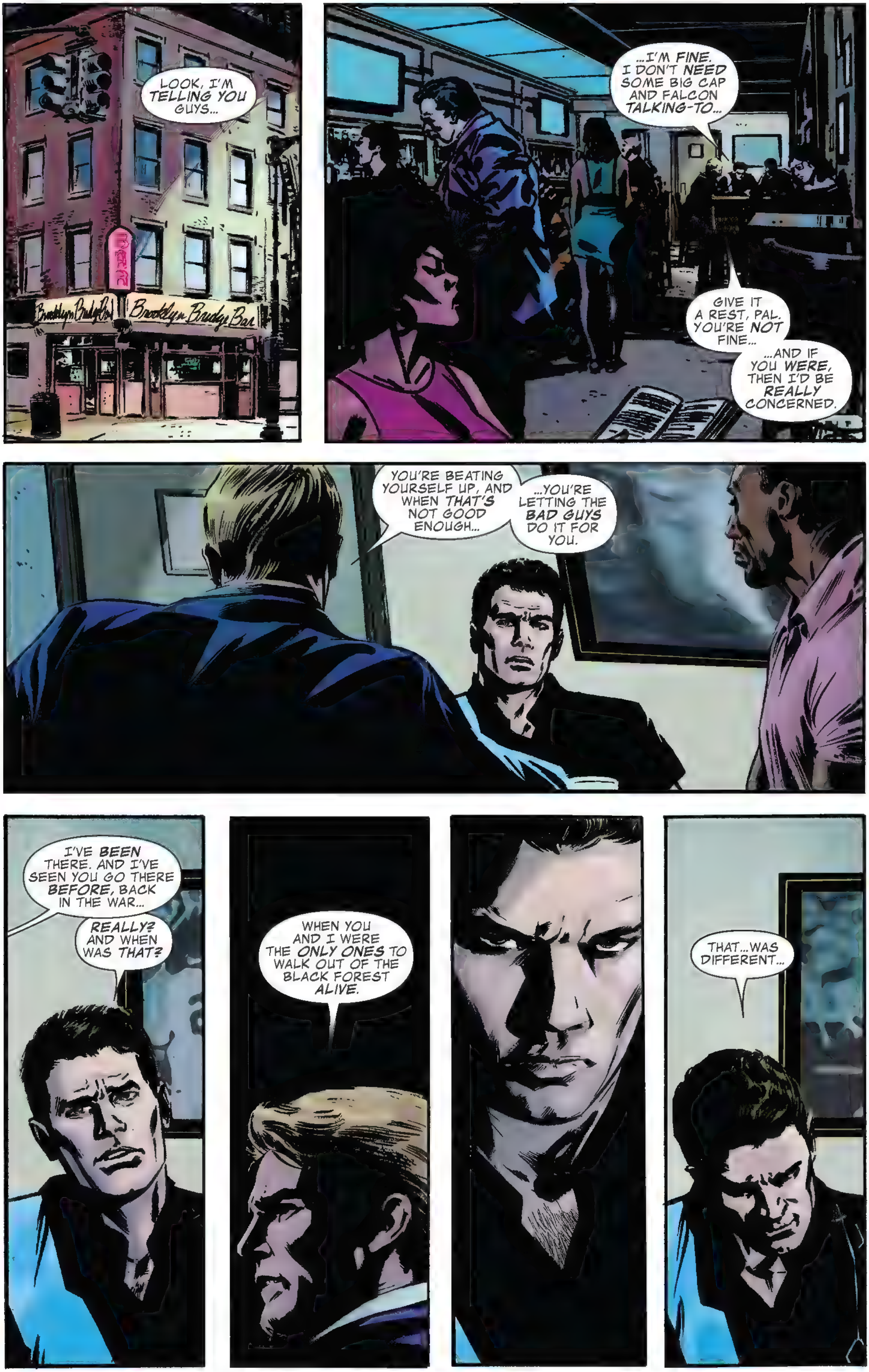

--NATASHA...?
James,
-Had Avengers business
didn't want to wake you.
N.
NO POINT TRYING TO GO BACK TO SLEEP...
NOT WITH WHAT'S RATTLING AROUND IN *MY HEAD* TONIGHT...
GUESS IT'S AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY TO BREAK IN THE NEW WORKOUT ROOM.

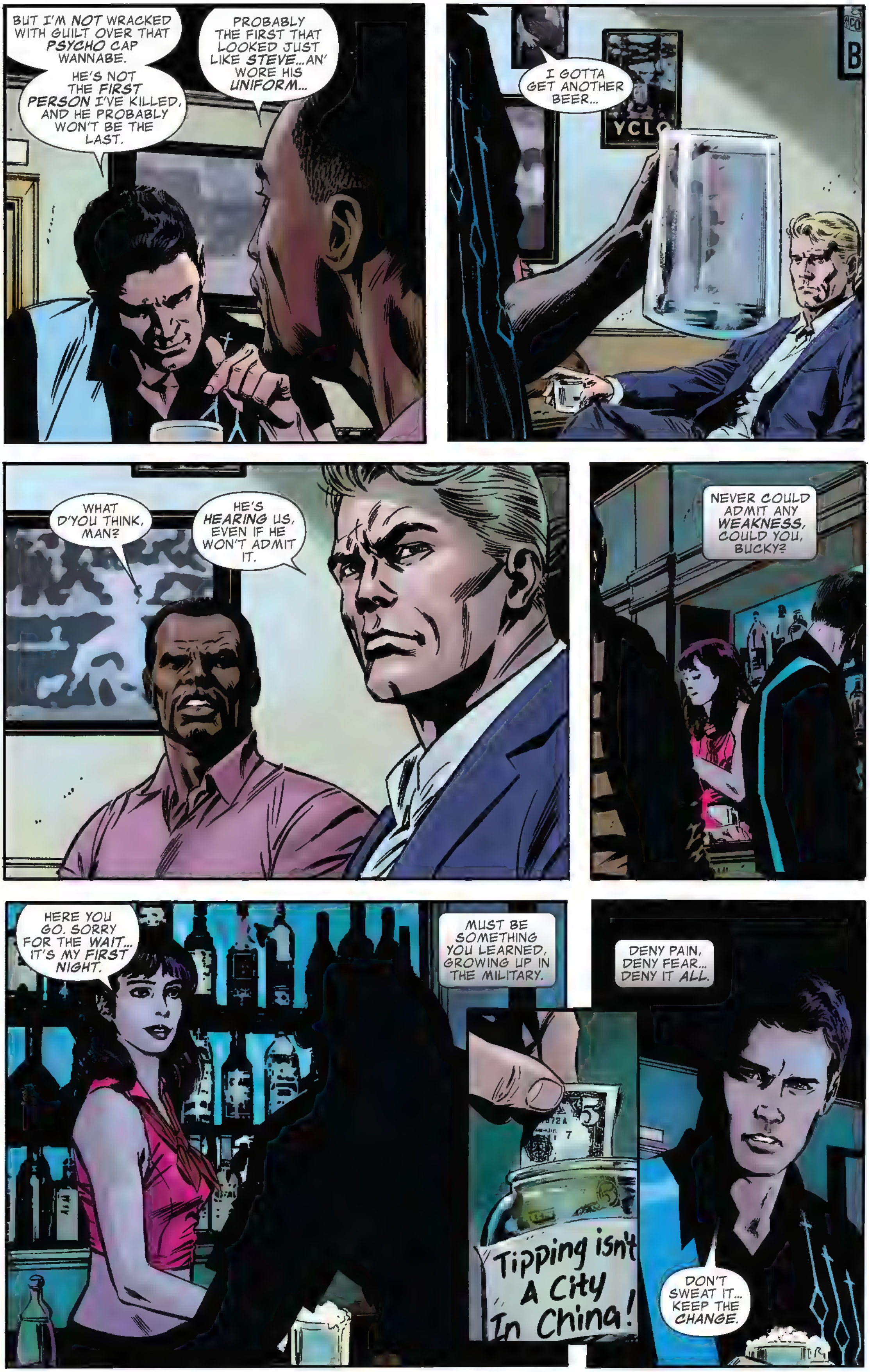

YOU GOTTA GET IT TOGETHER, BUCKY...
LUCKY YOU DIDN'T BREAK YOUR RIBS OR YOUR BACK TODAY...
...OR WORSE.
WHERE'S YOUR HEAD, MAN?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU...?
YOU GOTTA GET IT TOGETHER...

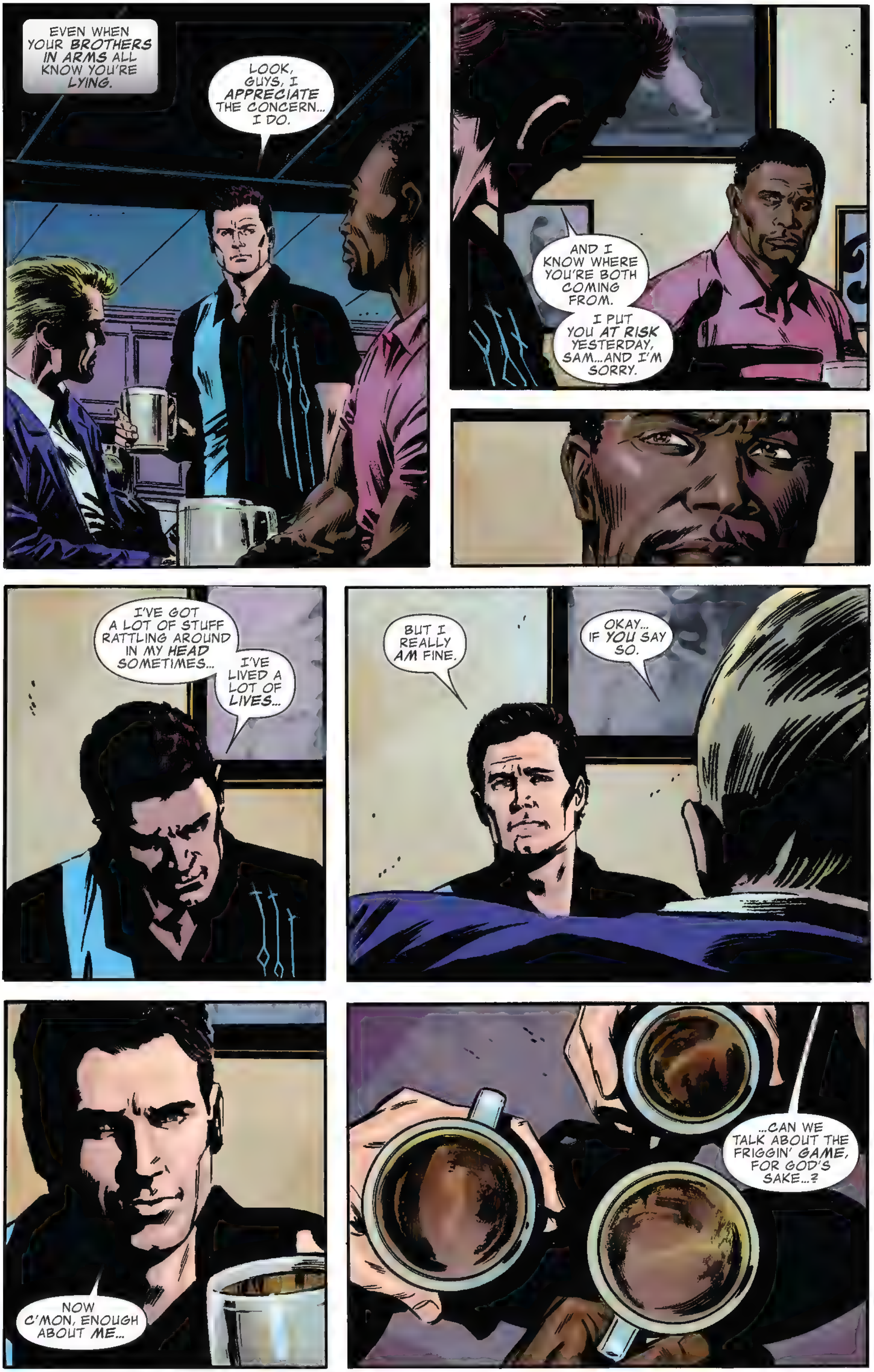

Two Weeks Ago
WHEN YOU SAID WE'D BE TAKING A *TRIP*, I THOUGHT YOU MEANT SOMEWHERE *PLEASANT*, HELMUT...
WHAT *IS* THIS PLACE?
IT'S CALLED THE *ISLE OF EXILES*.
WELL, I SUPPOSE *THAT'S* FITTING...
I *AM* AN EXILE NOW THAT I'VE JOINED UP WITH *YOU* AGAIN.
DON'T WORRY, WE'RE NOT *MOVING IN*, FIXER...
WE'RE JUST STOPPING BY TO VISIT AN *OLD COMRADE*...
Biergarten
--WHEN I WANT *MORE STOUT*, YOU GO TAP THE DAMNED BARREL IF YOU *HAVE TO!*
BUT--BUT--I SWEAR TO YOU--!
BAHH!
YOU WASTE MY TIME...ALL OF YOU...
SKAAASH

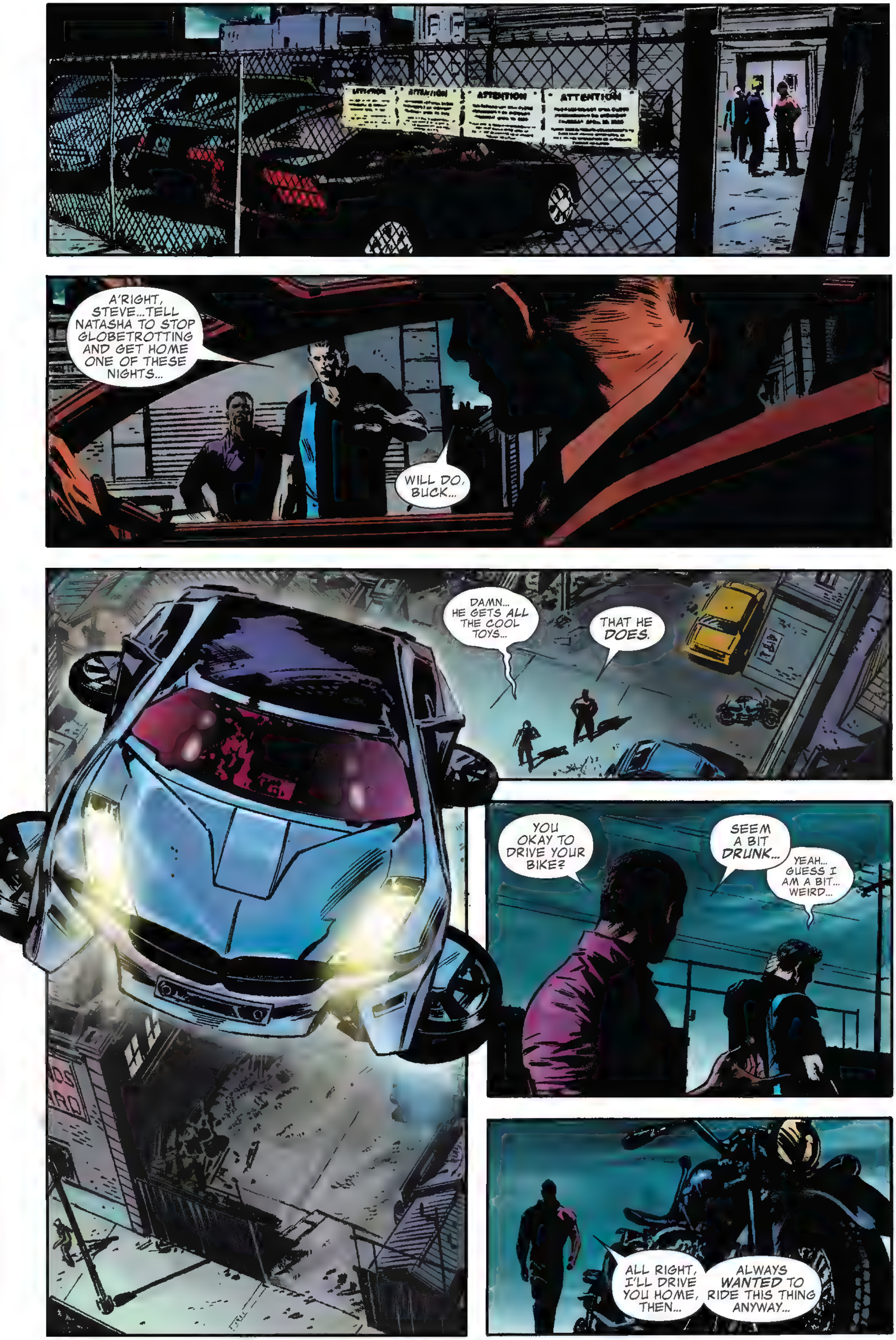

ARE YOU BORED...
EH--?
...OR HAS IT JUST BEEN TOO LONG SINCE YOU'VE HAD A REAL FIGHT?
ZEMO JUNIOR...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING ON MY ISLAND?
LOOKING FOR YOU... IRON HAND HAUPTMANN.
YOU OWED MY FATHER A DEBT, AND I'M HERE TO COLLECT.
YOU'RE GOOD AT BIG TALK, BOY...
BUT I OWE YOU NOTHING.
NOW GO AWAY BEFORE YOU GET--
--HUU--

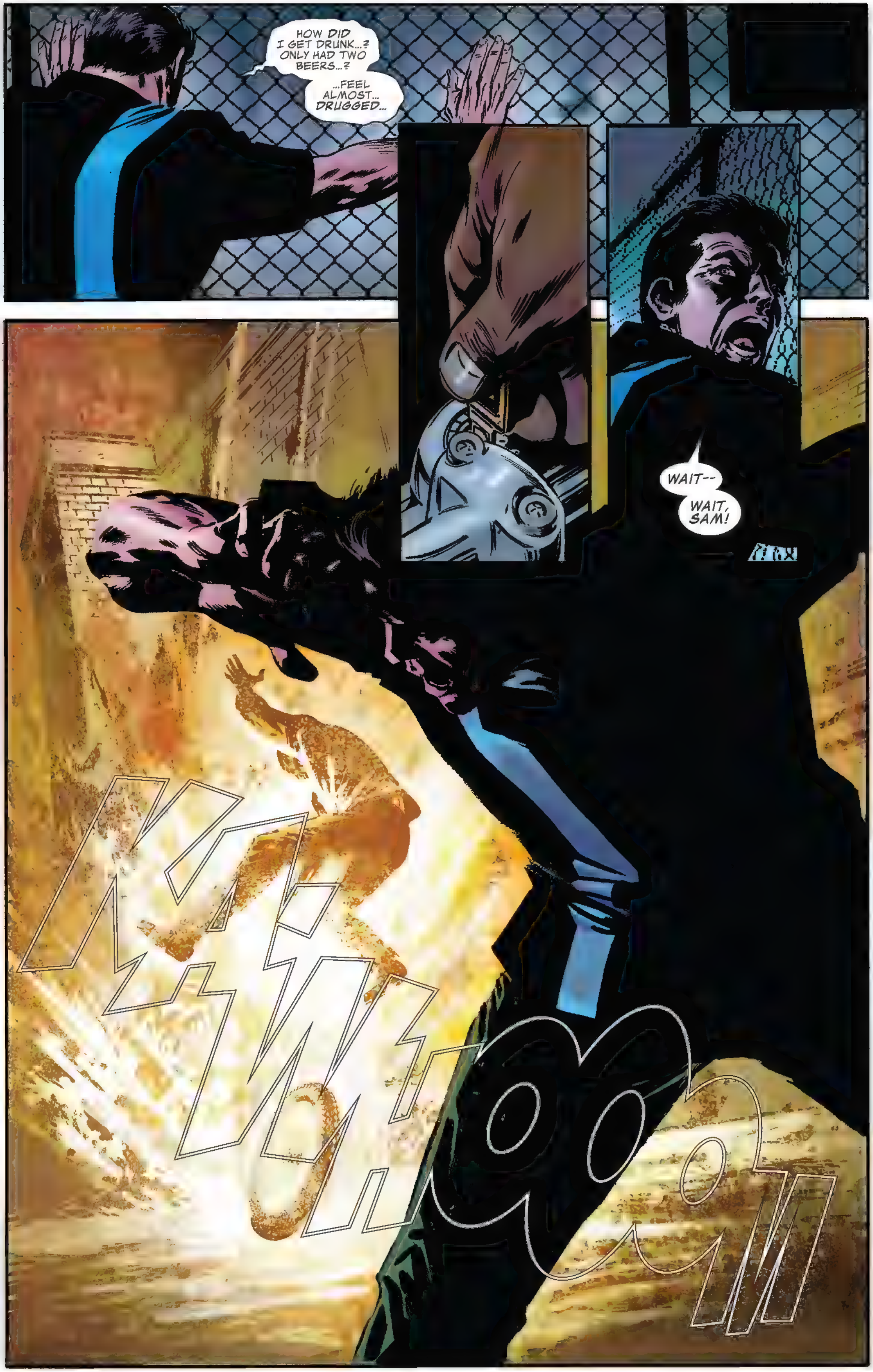

KA-RAAAASH
YOU INSOLENT BRAT!
WHAAM
UTT--
KRRNNSH
AS I SAID, YOU DRUNKEN FOOL...YOU OWED MY FATHER A DEBT.
THAT DEBT IS MINE NOW.
SO I SEE...
WHAT EXACTLY DID YOU HAVE IN MIND...?

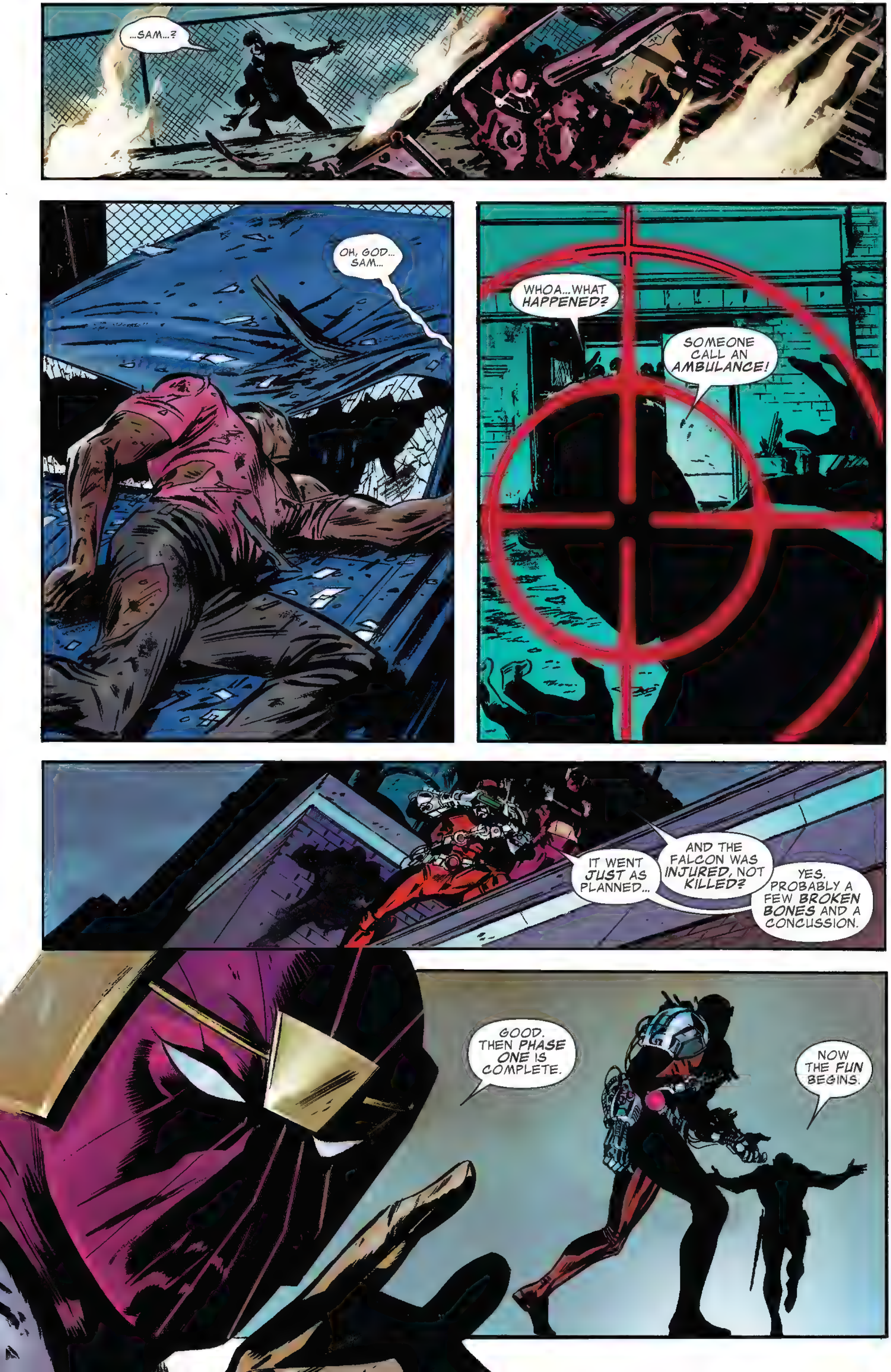

LOOK, I'M TELLING YOU GUYS...
BAR
Brooklyn Bridge Bar
Brooklyn Bridge Bar
...I'M FINE. I DON'T NEED SOME BIG CAP AND FALCON TALKING-TO...
GIVE IT A REST, PAL. YOU'RE NOT FINE...
...AND IF YOU WERE, THEN I'D BE REALLY CONCERNED.
YOU'RE BEATING YOURSELF UP, AND WHEN THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH...
...YOU'RE LETTING THE BAD GUYS DO IT FOR YOU.
I'VE BEEN THERE. AND I'VE SEEN YOU GO THERE BEFORE, BACK IN THE WAR...
REALLY? AND WHEN WAS THAT?
WHEN YOU AND I WERE THE ONLY ONES TO WALK OUT OF THE BLACK FOREST ALIVE.
THAT...WAS DIFFERENT...

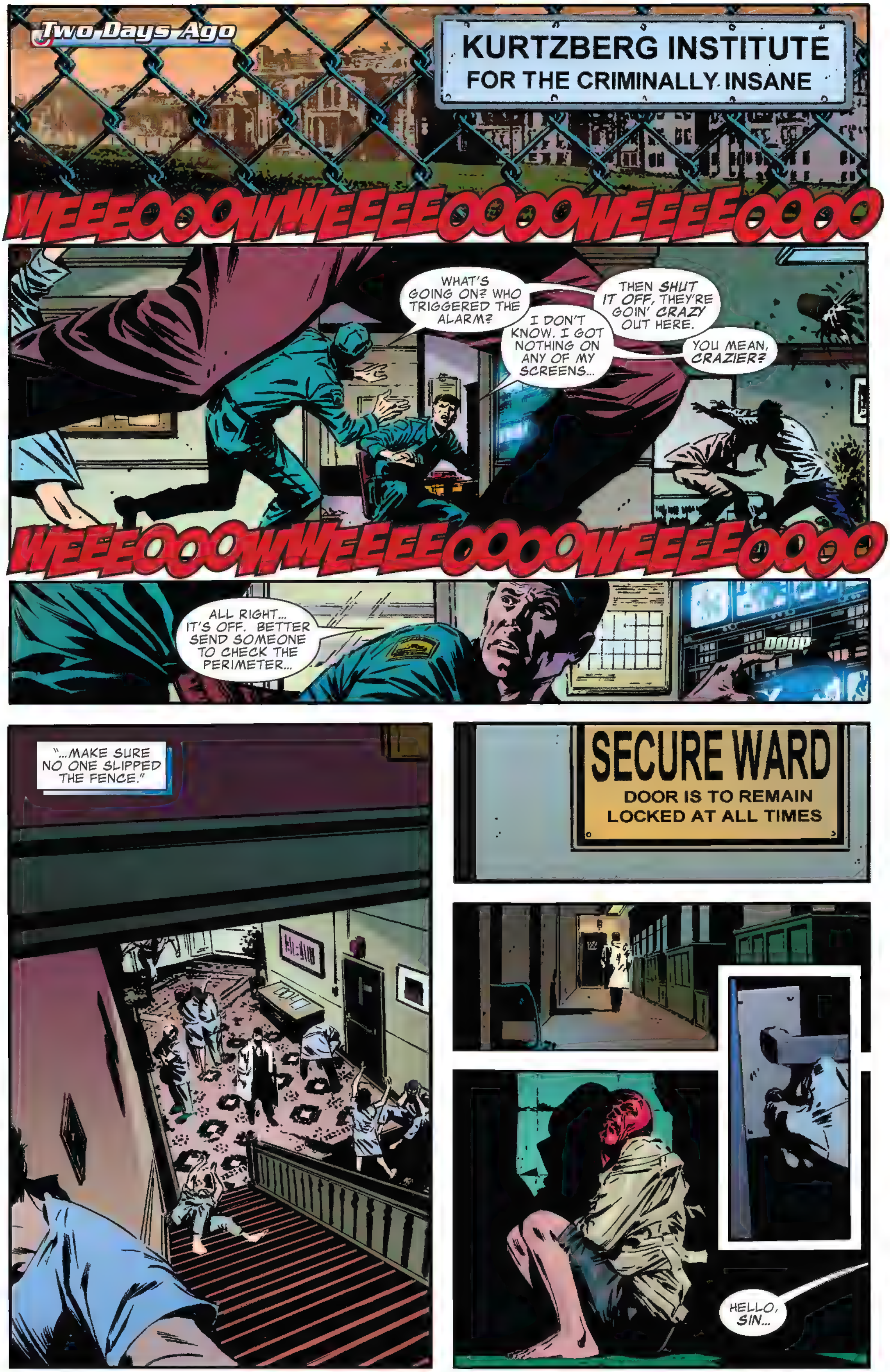

BUT I'M NOT WRACKED WITH GUILT OVER THAT PSYCHO CAP WANNABE.
HE'S NOT THE FIRST PERSON I'VE KILLED, AND HE PROBABLY WON'T BE THE LAST.
PROBABLY THE FIRST THAT LOOKED JUST LIKE STEVE...AN' WORE HIS UNIFORM...
I GOTTA GET ANOTHER BEER...
YCLO
B
WHAT D'YOU THINK, MAN?
HE'S HEARING US, EVEN IF HE WON'T ADMIT IT.
NEVER COULD ADMIT ANY WEAKNESS, COULD YOU, BUCKY?
HERE YOU GO. SORRY FOR THE WAIT... IT'S MY FIRST NIGHT.
MUST BE SOMETHING YOU LEARNED, GROWING UP IN THE MILITARY.
DENY PAIN, DENY FEAR... DENY IT ALL.
Tipping isn't A City In China!
DON'T SWEAT IT... KEEP THE CHANGE.

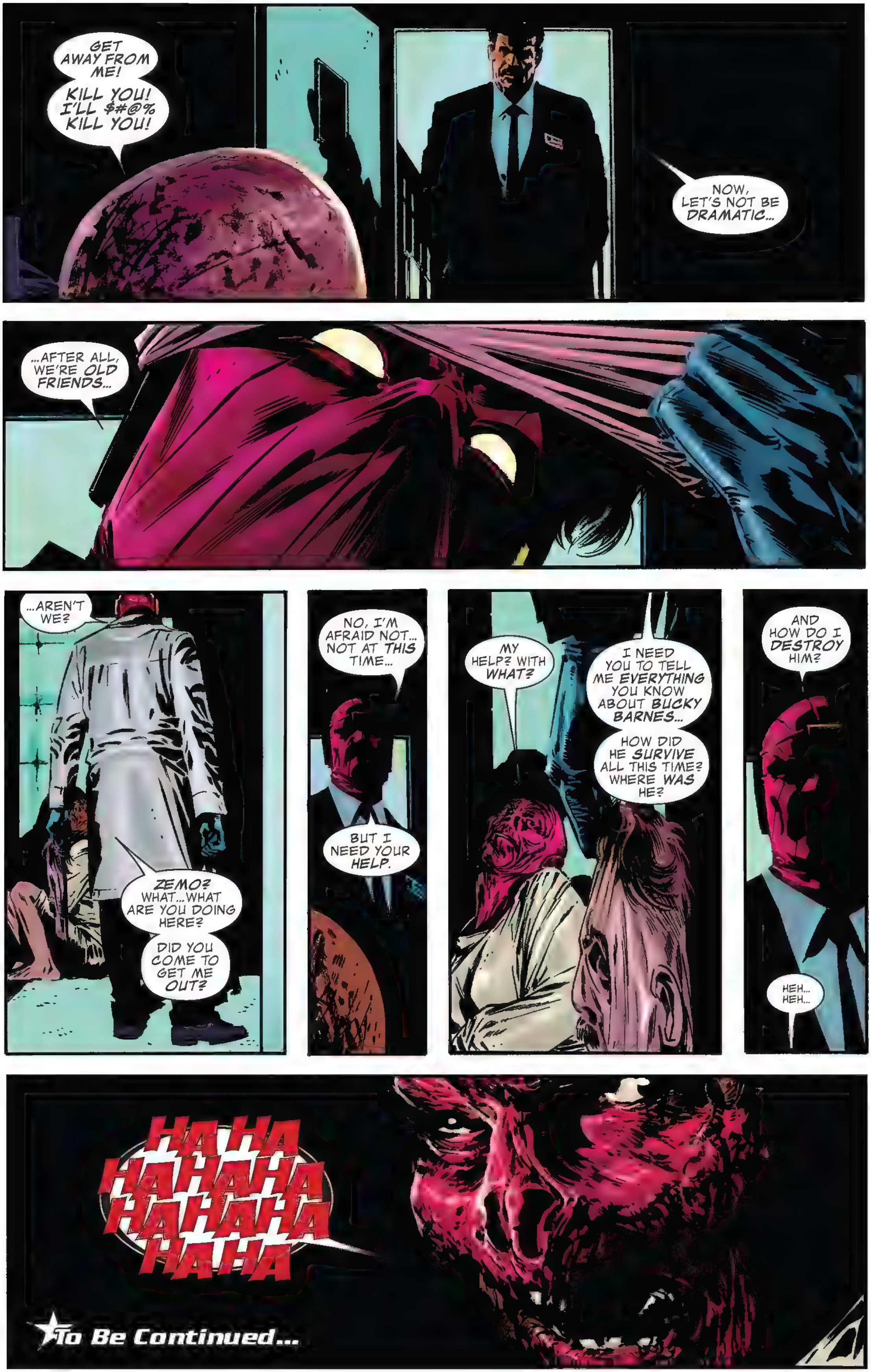

EVEN WHEN YOUR *BROTHERS IN ARMS* ALL KNOW YOU'RE *LYING.*
LOOK, GUYS, I *APPRECIATE* THE CONCERN... I DO.
AND I KNOW WHERE YOU'RE BOTH COMING FROM.
I PUT YOU *AT RISK* YESTERDAY, SAM...AND I'M SORRY.
I'VE GOT A LOT OF STUFF RATTLING AROUND IN MY *HEAD* SOMETIMES...
I'VE LIVED A LOT OF *LIVES...*
BUT I REALLY *AM* FINE.
OKAY... IF *YOU* SAY SO.
NOW C'MON, ENOUGH ABOUT *ME...*
...CAN WE TALK ABOUT THE FRIGGIN' *GAME,* FOR GOD'S SAKE...?


ATTENTION
ATTENTION
ATTENTION
ATTENTION
A'RIGHT, STEVE...TELL NATASHA TO STOP GLOBETROTTING AND GET HOME ONE OF THESE NIGHTS...
WILL DO, BUCK...
DAMN... HE GETS ALL THE COOL TOYS...
THAT HE DOES.
YOU OKAY TO DRIVE YOUR BIKE?
SEEM A BIT DRUNK...
YEAH... GUESS I AM A BIT... WEIRD...
ALL RIGHT, I'LL DRIVE YOU HOME, THEN...
ALWAYS WANTED TO RIDE THIS THING ANYWAY...


HOW DID I GET DRUNK...? ONLY HAD TWO BEERS...?
...FEEL ALMOST... DRUGGED...
WAIT--
WAIT, SAM!
KWHOOM


...SAM...?
OH, GOD... SAM...
WHOA...WHAT *HAPPENED?*
SOMEONE CALL AN *AMBULANCE!*
IT WENT *JUST* AS PLANNED...
AND THE FALCON WAS *INJURED*, NOT *KILLED?*
YES. PROBABLY A FEW *BROKEN BONES* AND A CONCUSSION.
GOOD. THEN *PHASE ONE* IS COMPLETE.
NOW THE *FUN* BEGINS.


Two Days Ago
KURTZBERG INSTITUTE
FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE
WEEEOOOWWEEEEOOOOWEEEEOOOO
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHO TRIGGERED THE ALARM?
THEN SHUT IT OFF, THEY'RE GOIN' CRAZY OUT HERE.
I DON'T KNOW. I GOT NOTHING ON ANY OF MY SCREENS...
YOU MEAN, CRAZIER?
WEEEOOOWWEEEEOOOOWEEEEOOOO
ALL RIGHT... IT'S OFF. BETTER SEND SOMEONE TO CHECK THE PERIMETER...
DOOP
"...MAKE SURE NO ONE SLIPPED THE FENCE."
SECURE WARD
DOOR IS TO REMAIN
LOCKED AT ALL TIMES
HELLO, SIN...


GET AWAY FROM ME!
KILL YOU! I'LL $#@% KILL YOU!
NOW, LET'S NOT BE DRAMATIC...
...AFTER ALL, WE'RE OLD FRIENDS...
...AREN'T WE?
ZEMO? WHAT...WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
DID YOU COME TO GET ME OUT?
NO, I'M AFRAID NOT... NOT AT THIS TIME...
BUT I NEED YOUR HELP.
MY HELP? WITH WHAT?
I NEED YOU TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT BUCKY BARNES...
HOW DID HE SURVIVE ALL THIS TIME? WHERE WAS HE?
AND HOW DO I DESTROY HIM?
HEH... HEH...
HAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHA
To Be Continued...

THE HEROIC AGE

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BRUBAKER
BREITWEISER
GUICE
WHITE

CAPTAIN AMERICA

ALSO FEATURING
NOMAD

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CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the man who was Captain America, Cap's former partner during World War II, James "Bucky" Barnes, has taken on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But not everybody is happy that Bucky, thought killed in the closing days of the war, is still alive. Baron Helmut Zemo, son of the original Baron Zemo who claimed responsibility for Bucky's presumed death, was recently informed of his father's failure. Shamed and angered by the discovery, Zemo proceeds to systematically dismantle Bucky's life...starting with nearly killing Bucky's partner the Falcon!

NO ESCAPE part 2

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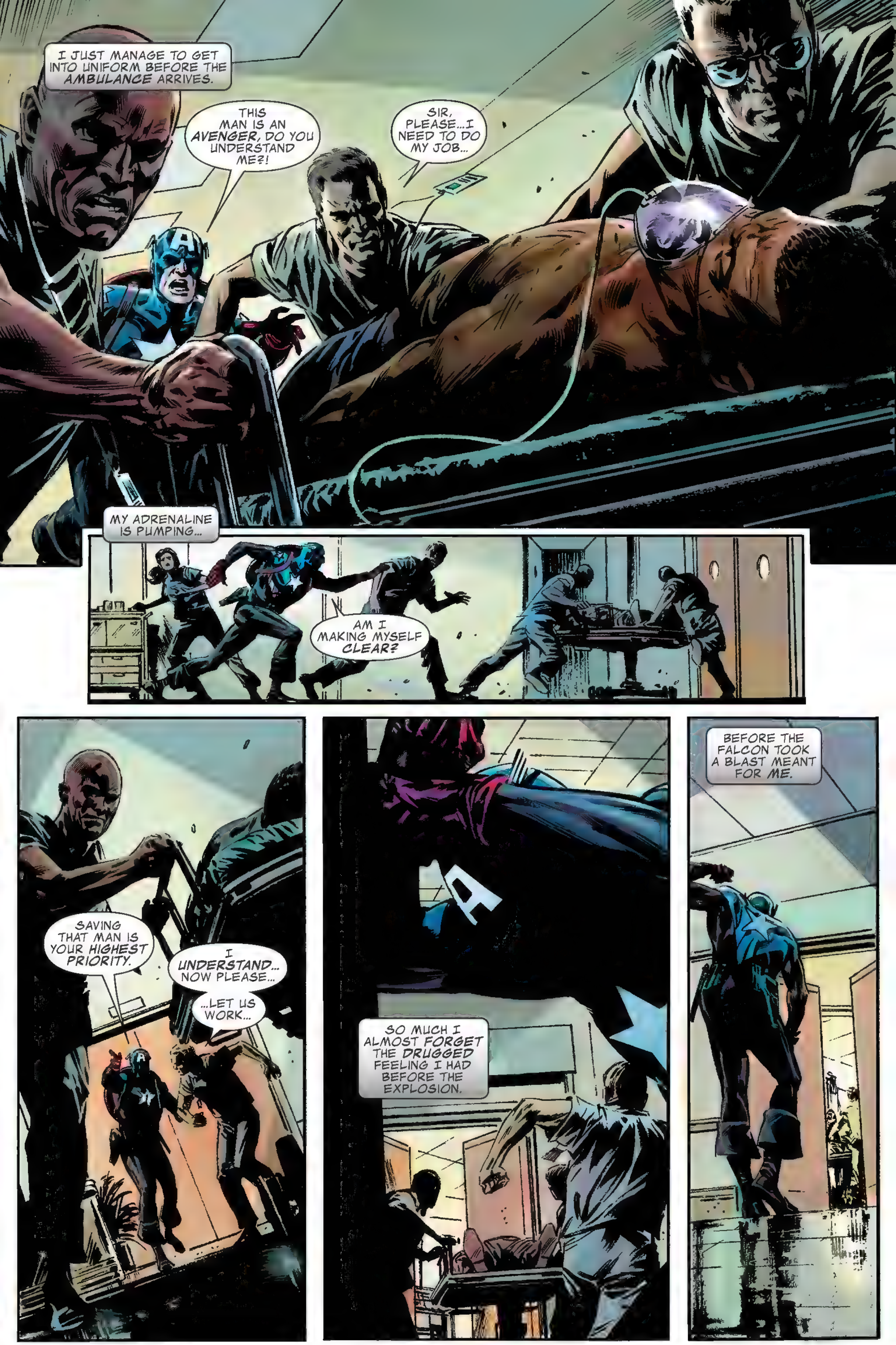
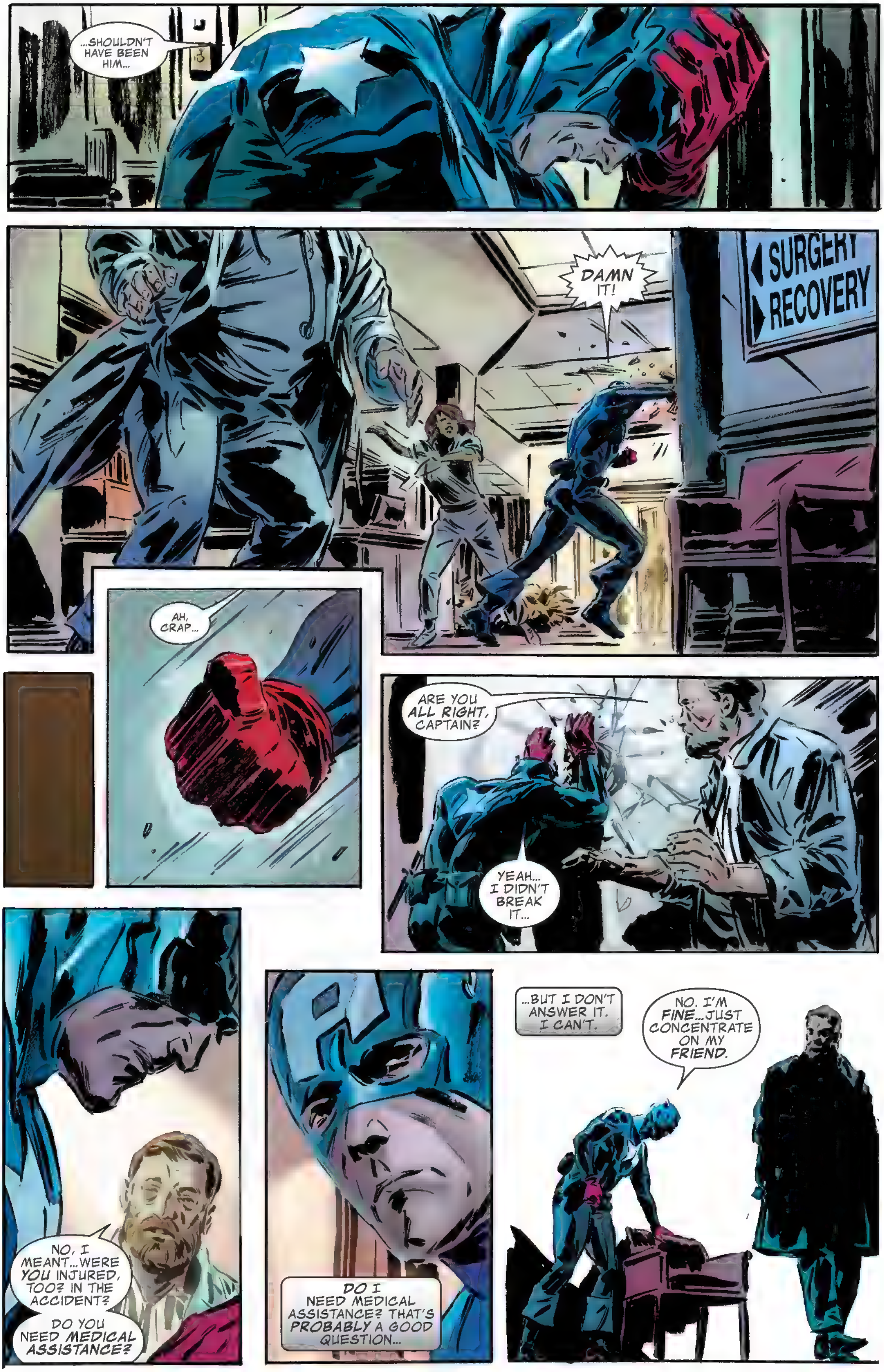
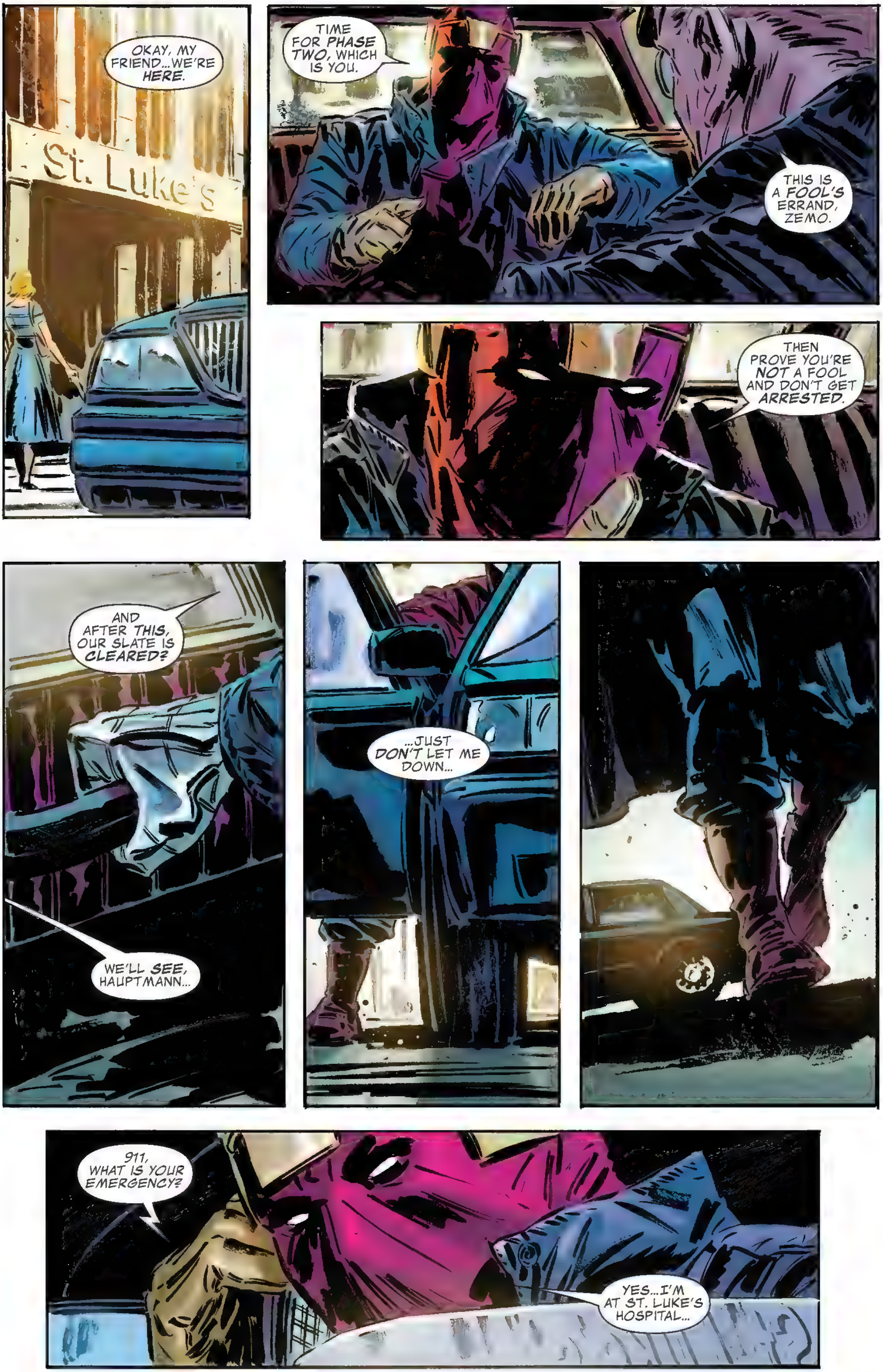
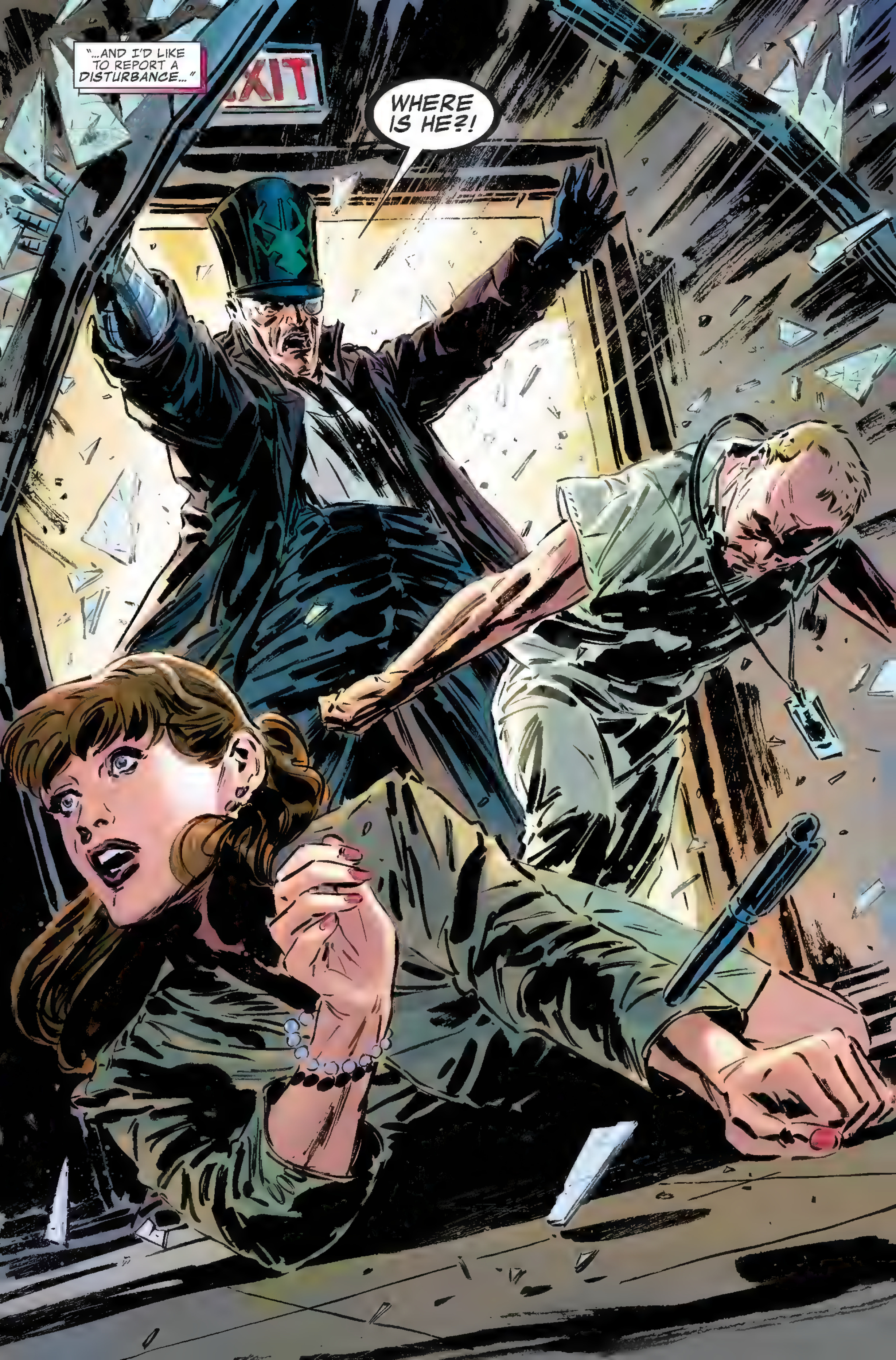
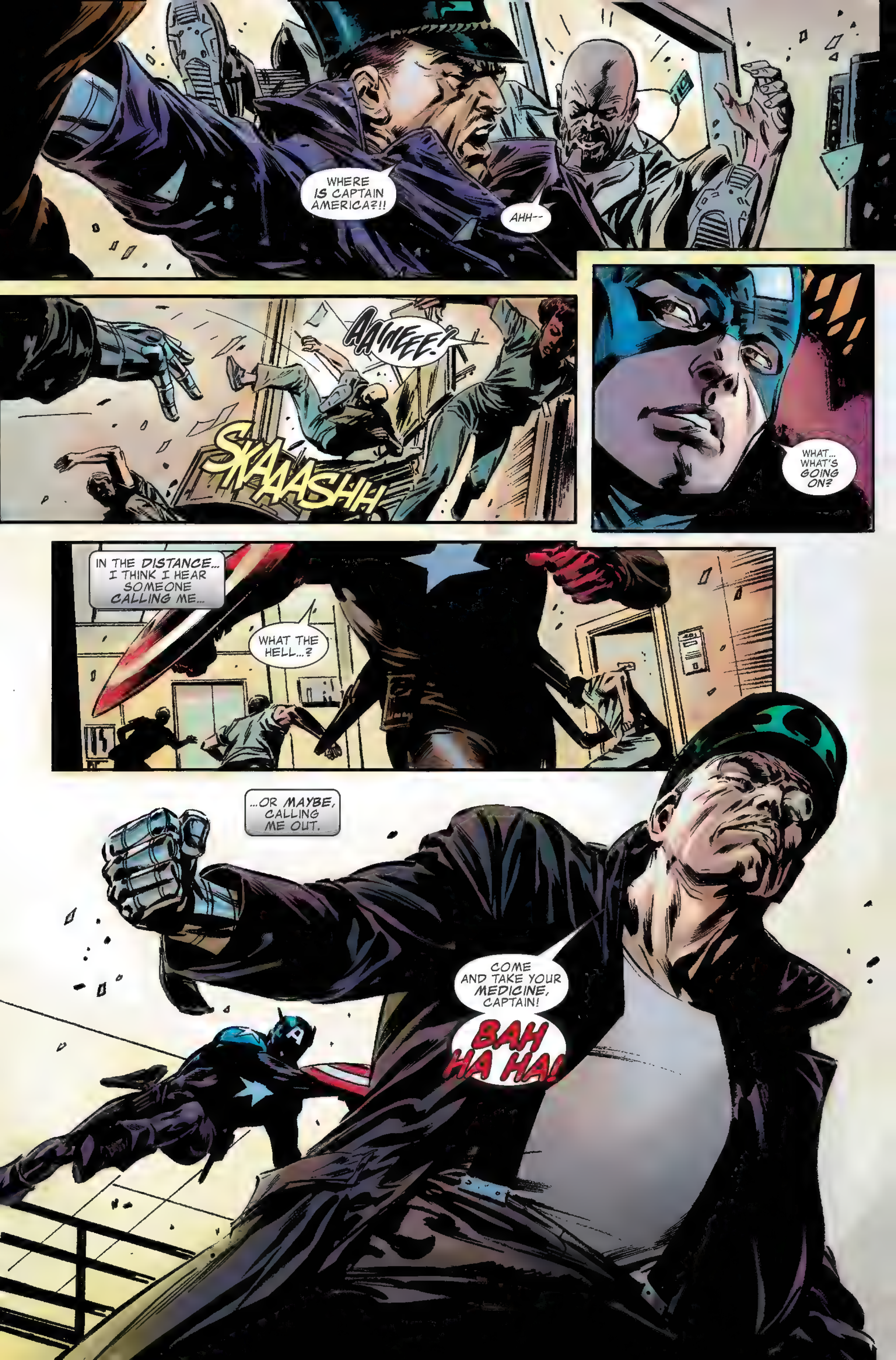
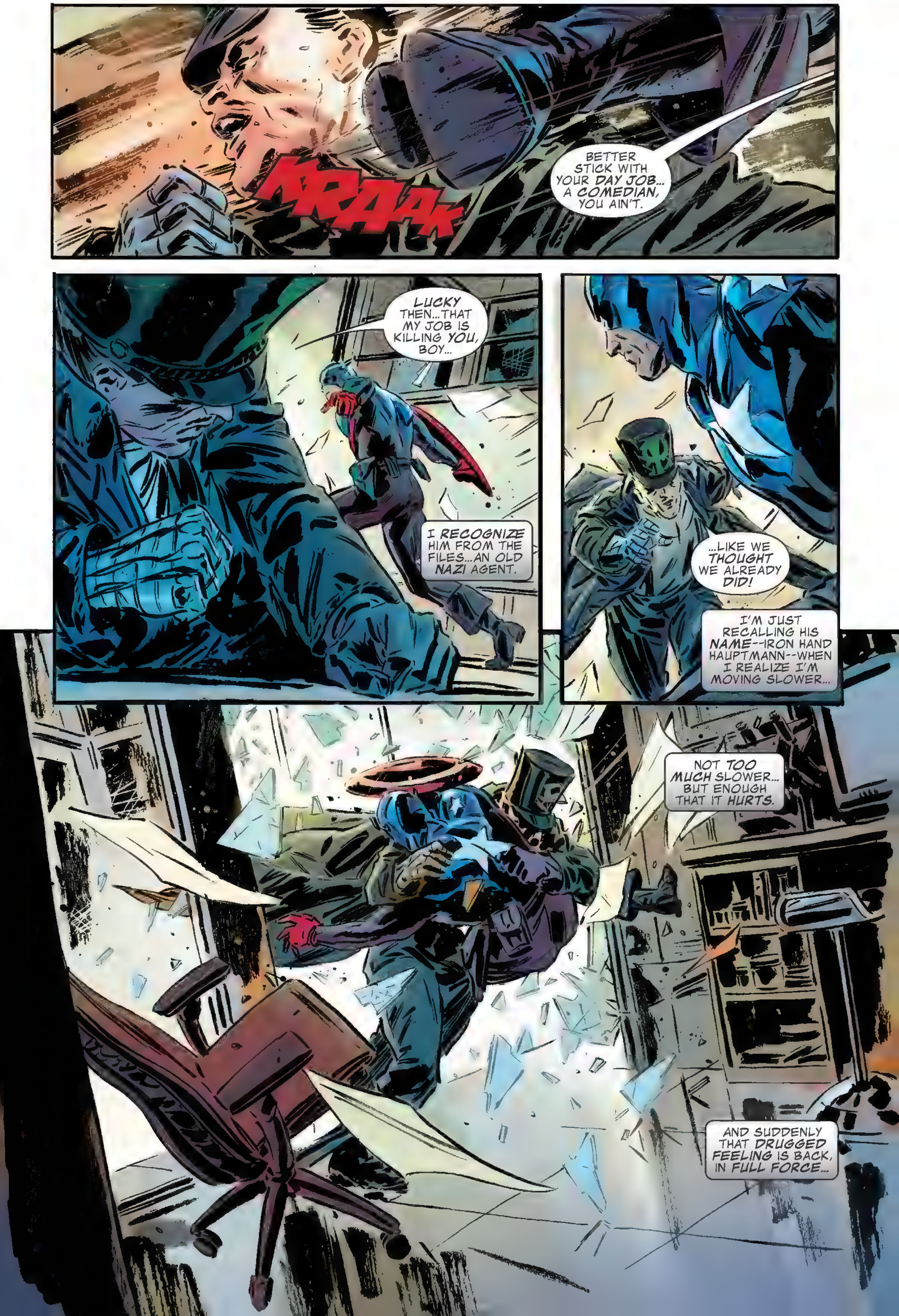

I JUST MANAGE TO GET INTO UNIFORM BEFORE THE *AMBULANCE* ARRIVES.
THIS MAN IS AN *AVENGER*, DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME?!
SIR, PLEASE...I NEED TO DO MY JOB...
MY ADRENALINE IS PUMPING...
AM I MAKING MYSELF *CLEAR?*
SAVING THAT MAN IS YOUR *HIGHEST* PRIORITY.
I *UNDERSTAND*... NOW PLEASE...
...LET US WORK...
SO MUCH I ALMOST *FORGET* THE *DRUGGED* FEELING I HAD BEFORE THE EXPLOSION.
BEFORE THE FALCON TOOK A BLAST MEANT FOR *ME*.

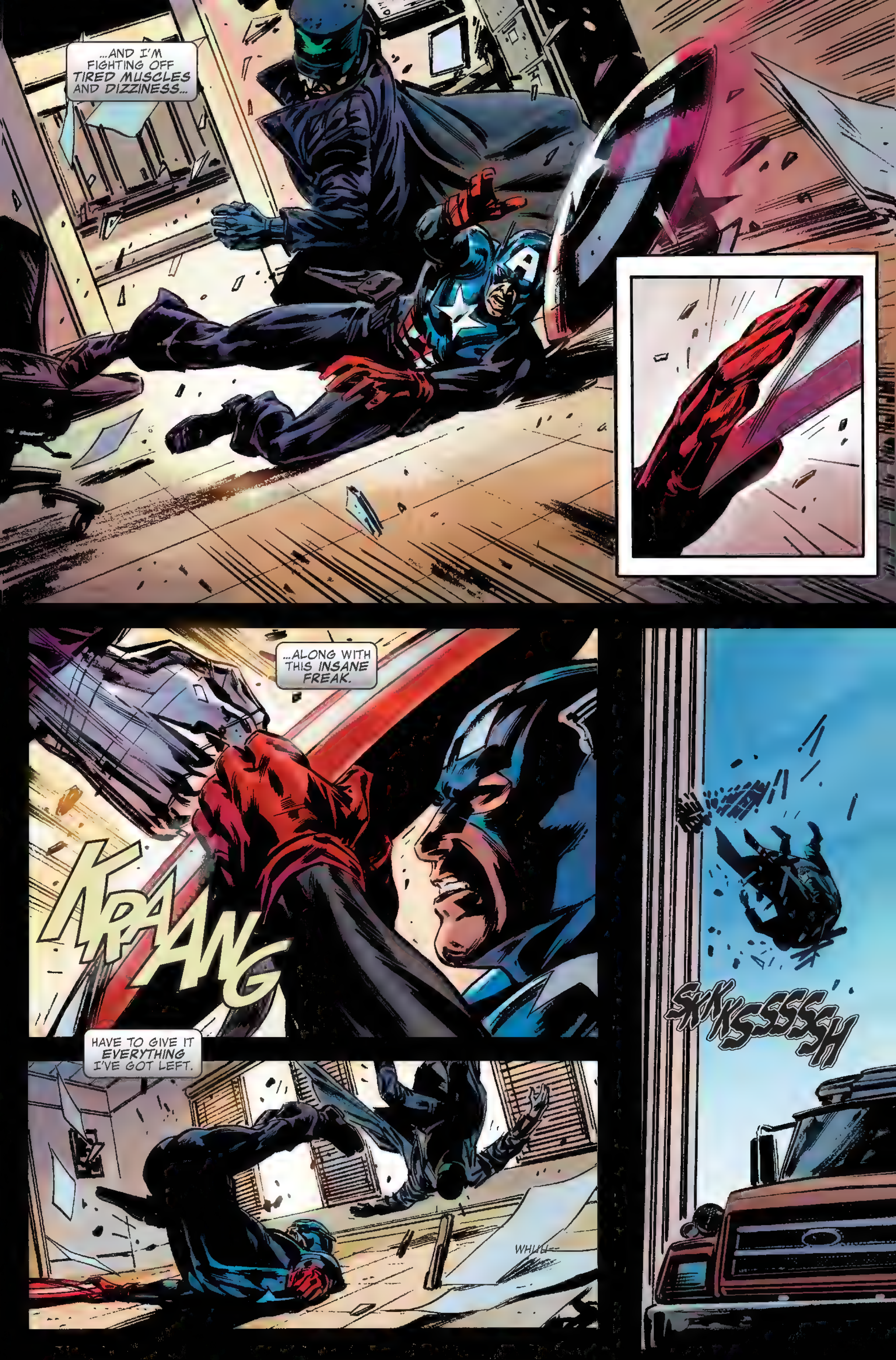

...SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN HIM...
DAMN IT!
SURGERY
RECOVERY
AH, CRAP...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, CAPTAIN?
YEAH... I DIDN'T BREAK IT...
NO, I MEANT... WERE YOU INJURED, TOO? IN THE ACCIDENT?
DO YOU NEED MEDICAL ASSISTANCE?
DO I NEED MEDICAL ASSISTANCE? THAT'S PROBABLY A GOOD QUESTION...
...BUT I DON'T ANSWER IT. I CAN'T.
NO. I'M FINE... JUST CONCENTRATE ON MY FRIEND.

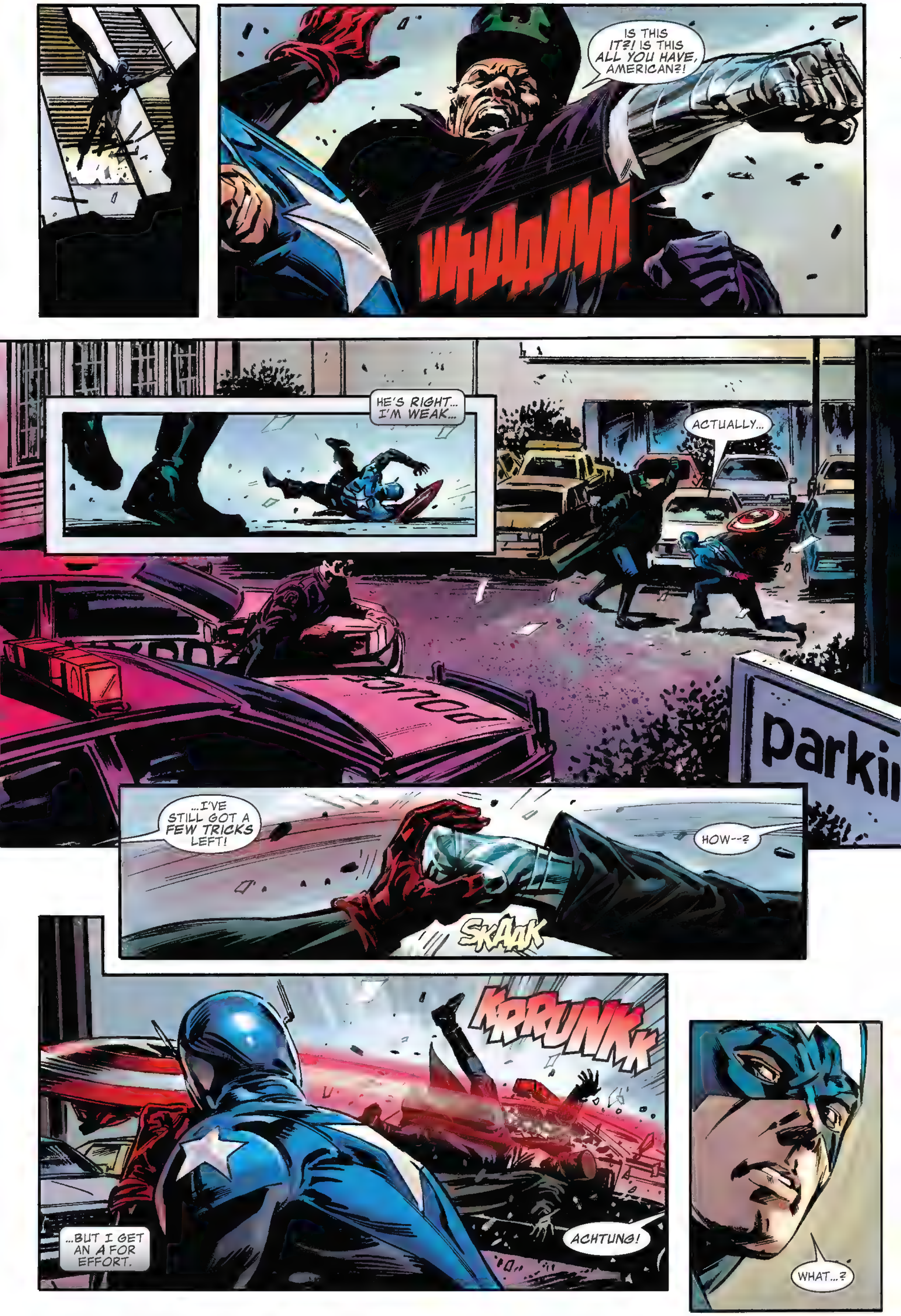

OKAY, MY FRIEND...WE'RE HERE.
St. Luke's
TIME FOR PHASE TWO, WHICH IS YOU.
THIS IS A FOOL'S ERRAND, ZEMO.
THEN PROVE YOU'RE NOT A FOOL AND DON'T GET ARRESTED.
AND AFTER THIS, OUR SLATE IS CLEARED?
WE'LL SEE, HAUPTMANN...
...JUST DON'T LET ME DOWN...
911, WHAT IS YOUR EMERGENCY?
YES...I'M AT ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL...

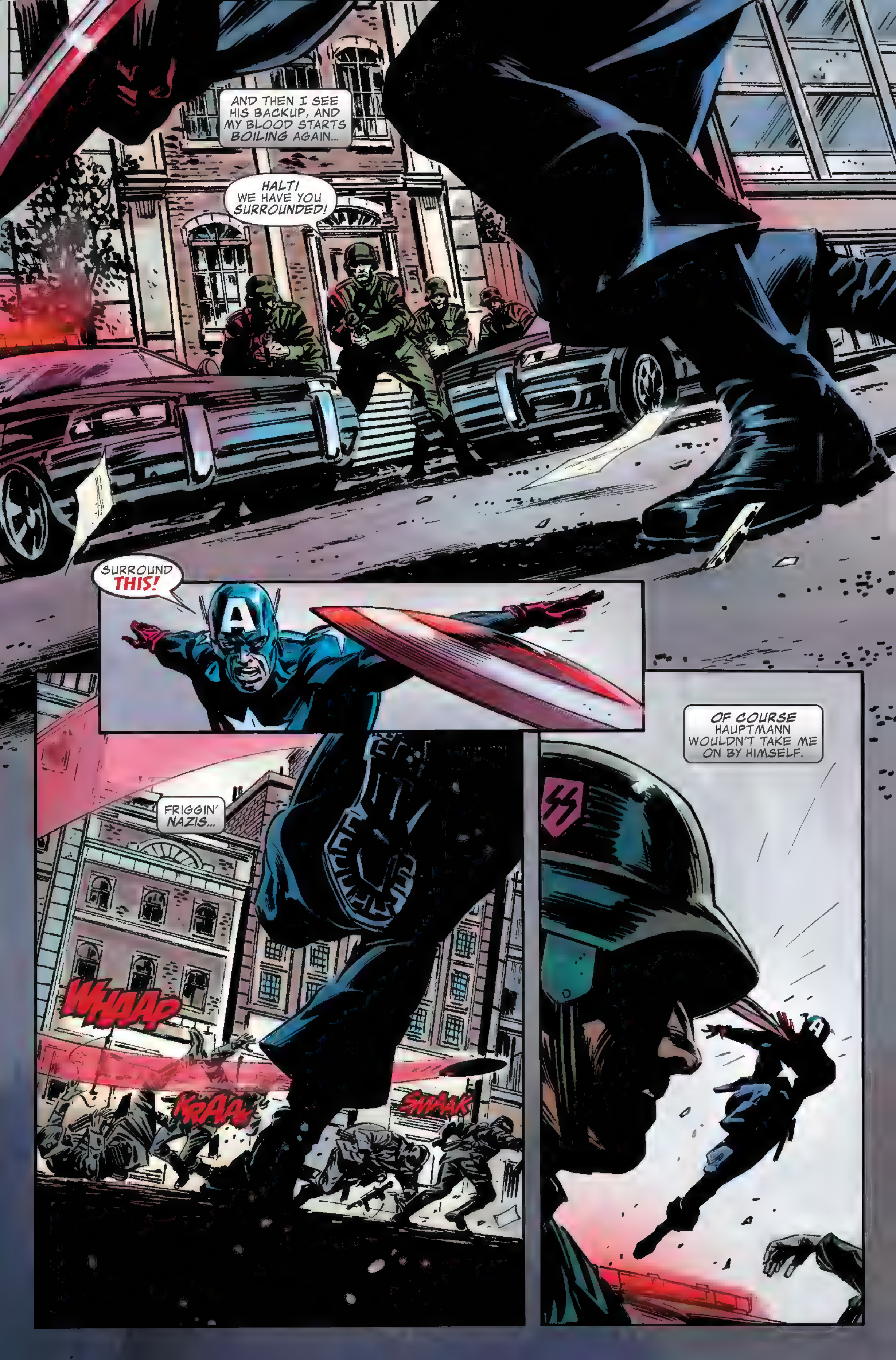

"...AND I'D LIKE TO REPORT A DISTURBANCE..."
EXIT
WHERE IS HE?!

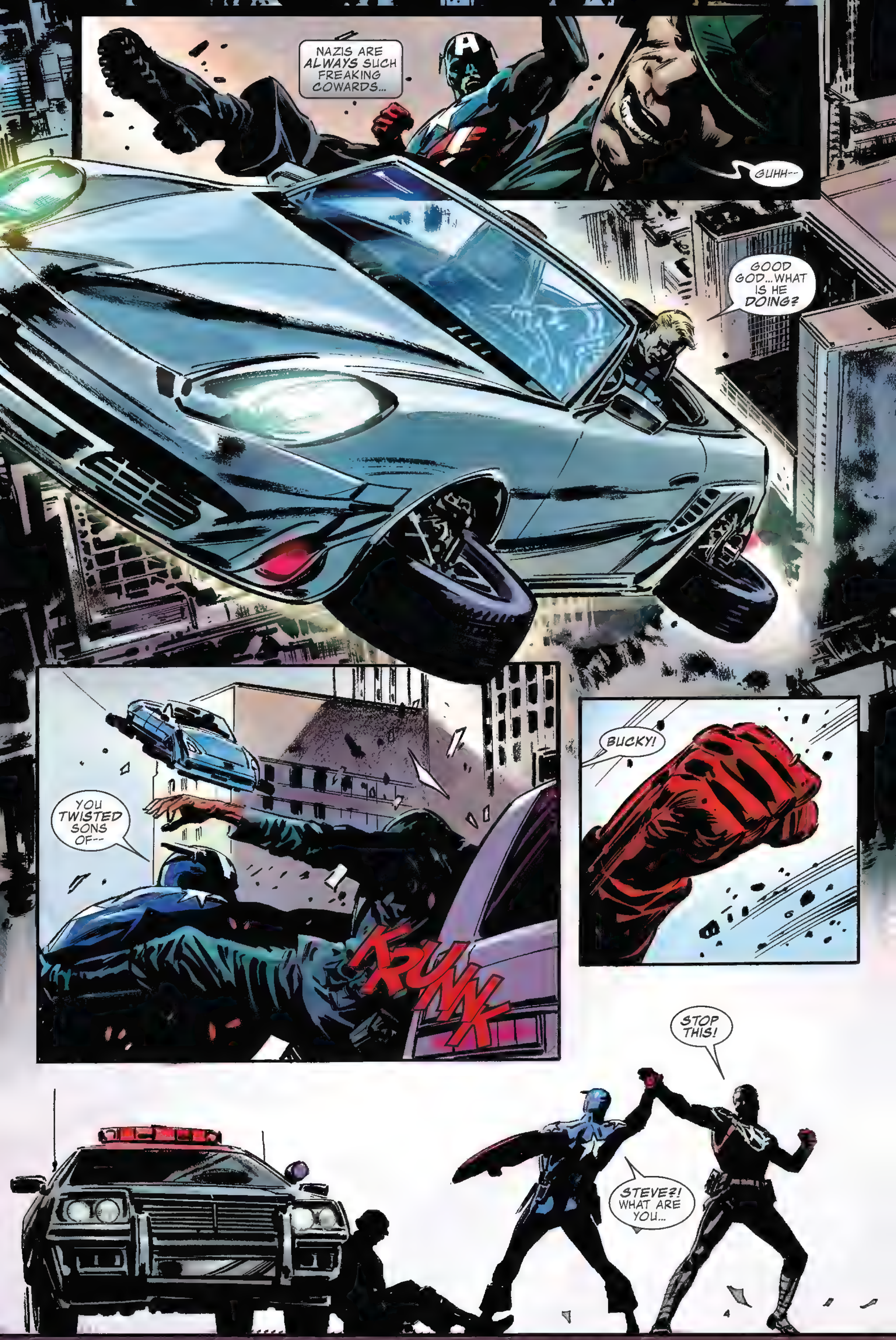

WHERE *IS* CAPTAIN AMERICA?!!
AHH--
AAIIEEE!
SKAAASHH
WHAT... WHAT'S *GOING* ON?
IN THE *DISTANCE*... I THINK I HEAR SOMEONE *CALLING* ME...
WHAT THE HELL...?
...OR *MAYBE*, CALLING ME OUT.
COME AND TAKE YOUR *MEDICINE*, CAPTAIN!
BAH HA HA!

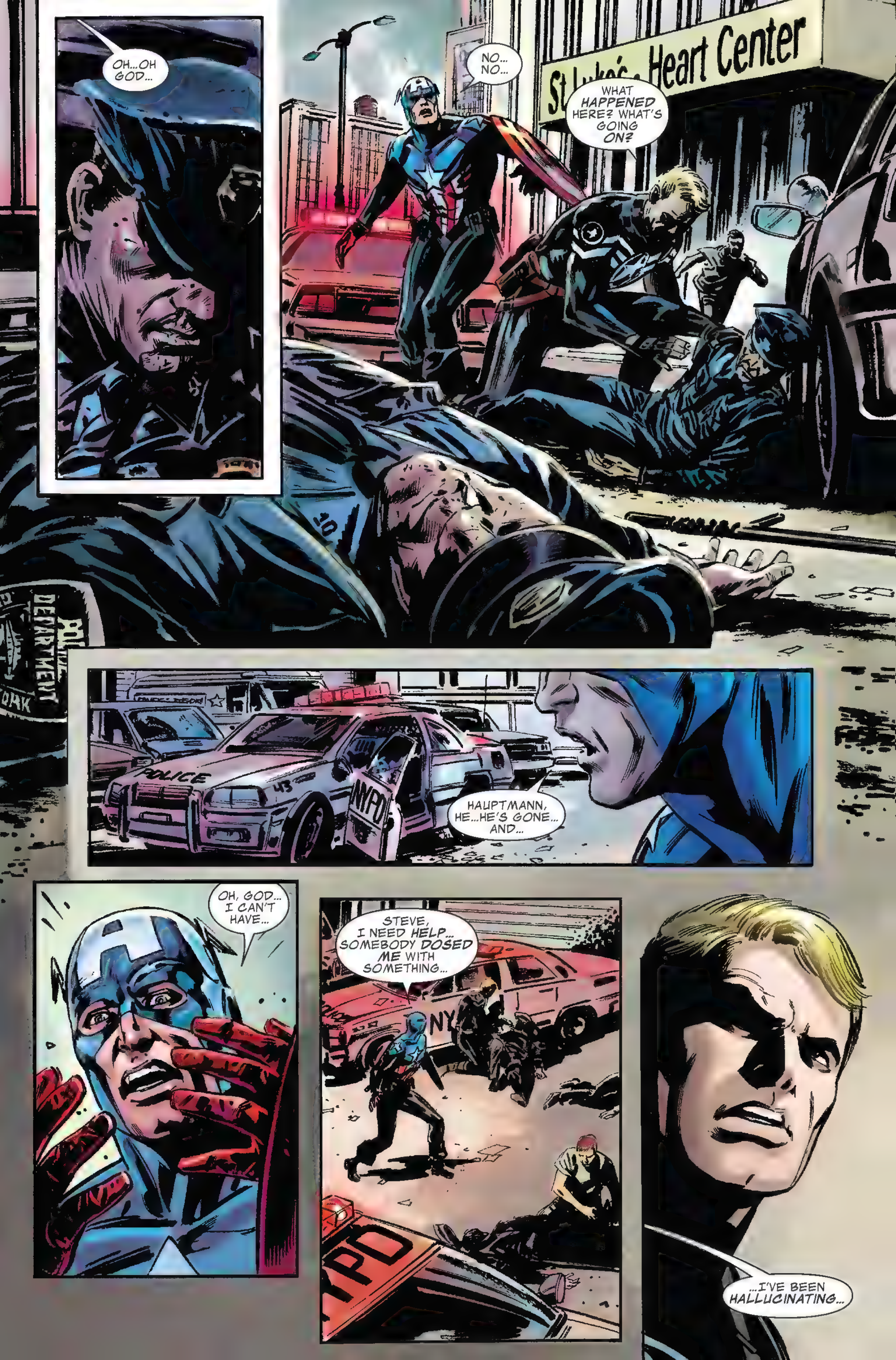

KRAAK
BETTER STICK WITH YOUR *DAY JOB*... A *COMEDIAN,* YOU AIN'T.
LUCKY THEN...THAT MY JOB IS KILLING *YOU,* BOY...
I *RECOGNIZE* HIM FROM THE FILES...AN OLD *NAZI* AGENT.
...LIKE WE *THOUGHT* WE ALREADY *DID!*
I'M JUST RECALLING HIS *NAME*--IRON HAND HAUPTMANN--WHEN I REALIZE I'M MOVING SLOWER...
NOT *TOO MUCH* SLOWER... BUT ENOUGH THAT IT *HURTS.*
AND SUDDENLY THAT *DRUGGED FEELING* IS BACK, IN *FULL FORCE...*

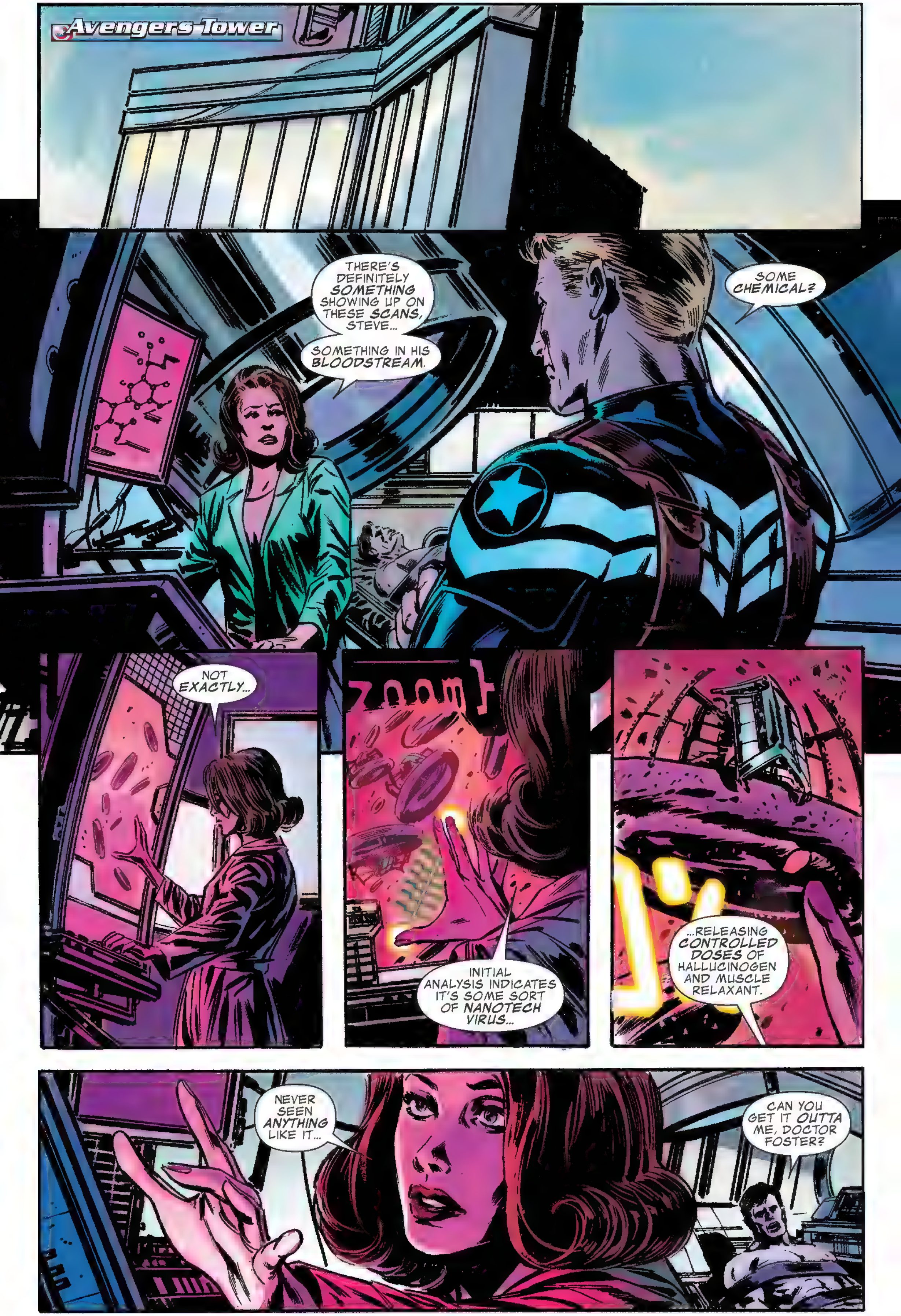

...AND I'M FIGHTING OFF TIRED MUSCLES AND DIZZINESS...
...ALONG WITH THIS INSANE FREAK.
KRAANG
HAVE TO GIVE IT EVERYTHING I'VE GOT LEFT.
WHUU--
SKKSSSSSH

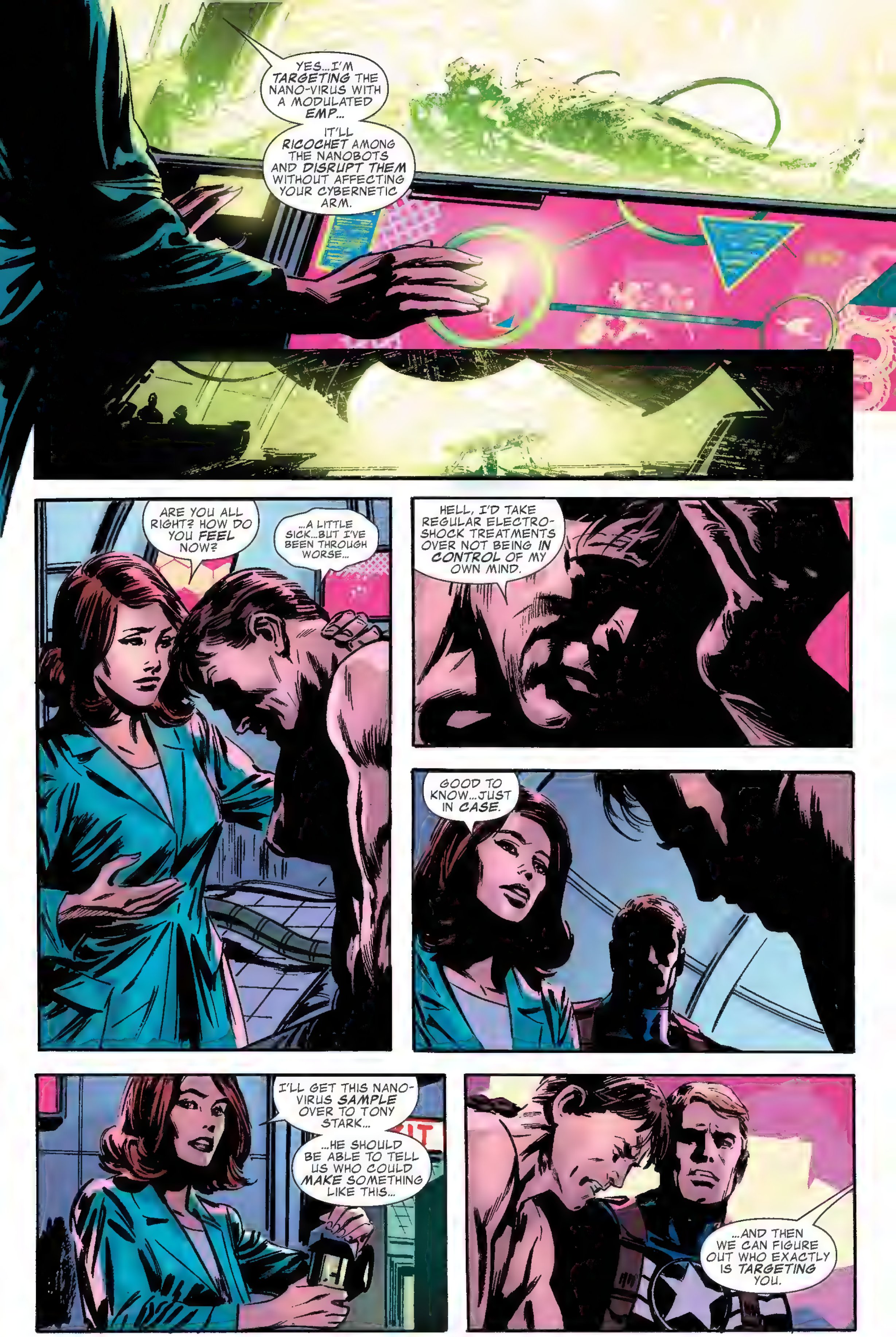

IS THIS IT?! IS THIS ALL YOU HAVE, AMERICAN?!
WHAAMM
HE'S RIGHT... I'M WEAK...
ACTUALLY...
parki
...I'VE STILL GOT A FEW TRICKS LEFT!
HOW--?
SKAAK
KRRUNKK
...BUT I GET AN A FOR EFFORT.
ACHTUNG!
WHAT...?

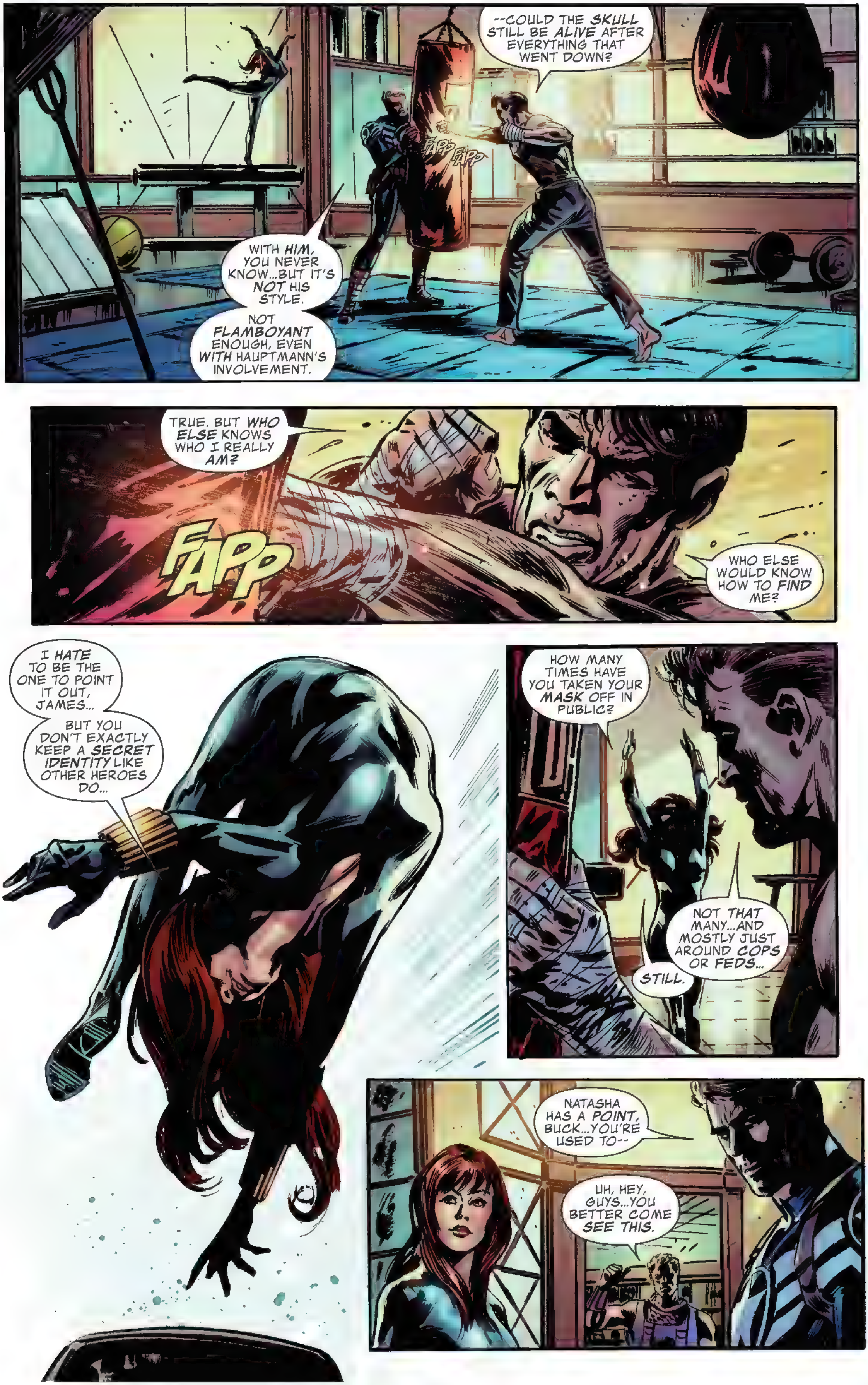

AND THEN I SEE HIS BACKUP, AND MY BLOOD STARTS BOILING AGAIN...
HALT! WE HAVE YOU SURROUNDED!
SURROUND THIS!
FRIGGIN' NAZIS...
WHAAP
KRAA
SMAAK
OF COURSE HAUPTMANN WOULDN'T TAKE ME ON BY HIMSELF.

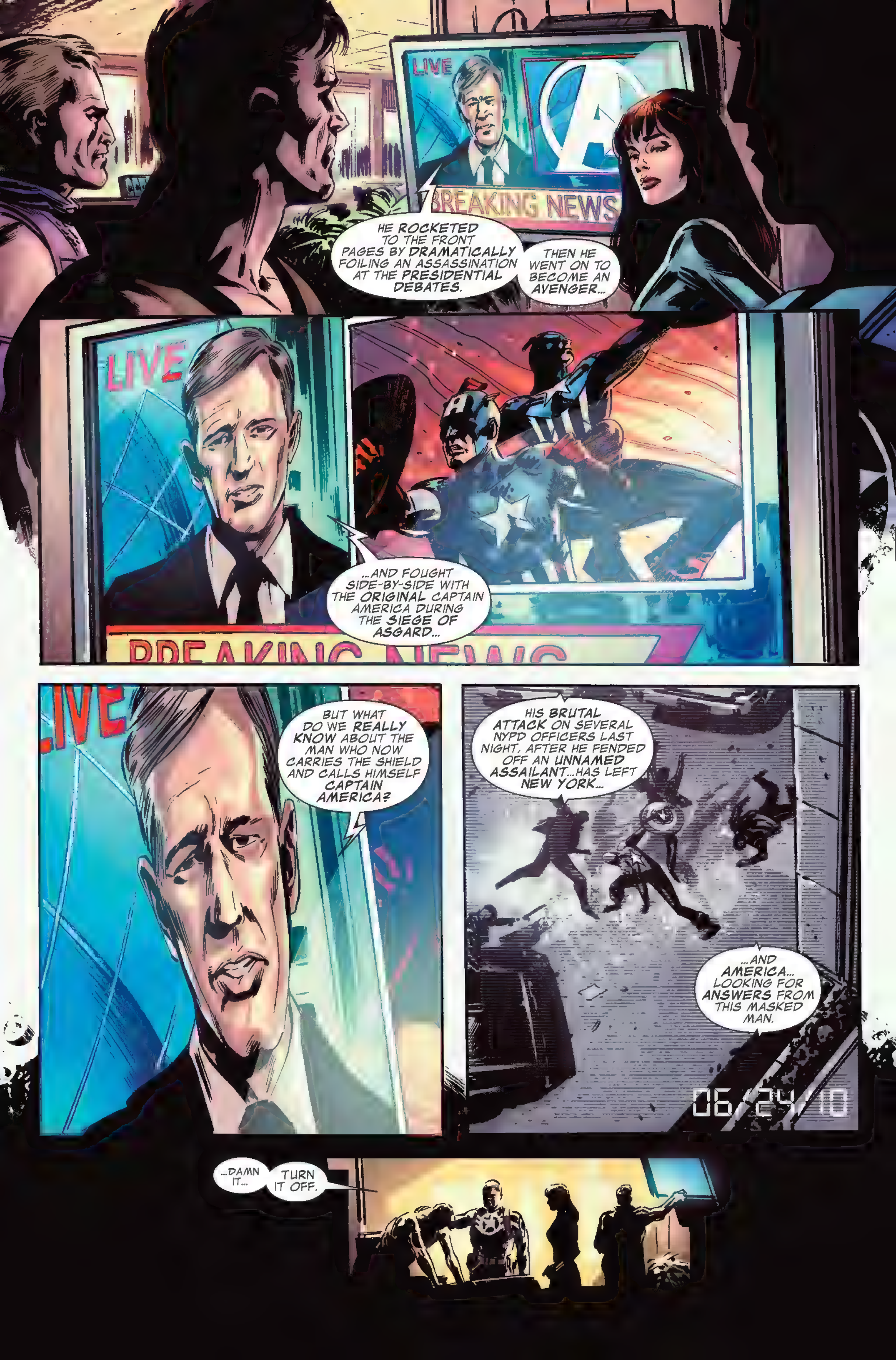

NAZIS ARE *ALWAYS* SUCH FREAKING COWARDS...
GUHH--
GOOD GOD...WHAT IS HE *DOING?*
YOU TWISTED SONS OF--
KRUNK
BUCKY!
STOP THIS!
STEVE?! WHAT ARE YOU...

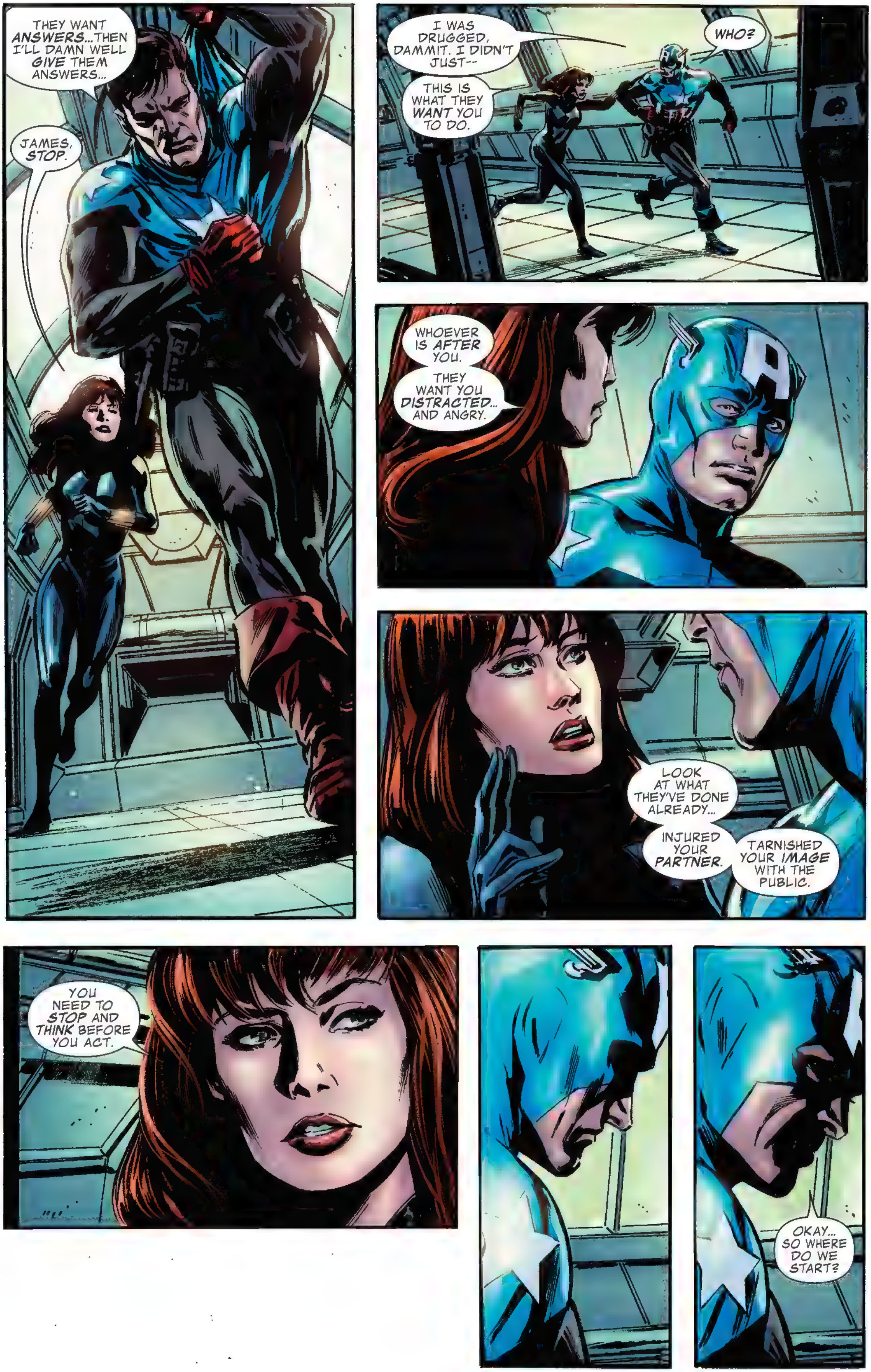

OH...OH GOD...
NO... NO...
St Luke's Heart Center
WHAT *HAPPENED* HERE? WHAT'S GOING *ON?*
DEPARTMENT
POLICE
43
NYPD
HAUPTMANN, HE...HE'S GONE... AND...
OH, GOD... I CAN'T HAVE...
STEVE, I NEED *HELP*... SOMEBODY *DOSED ME* WITH SOMETHING...
...I'VE BEEN *HALLUCINATING*...

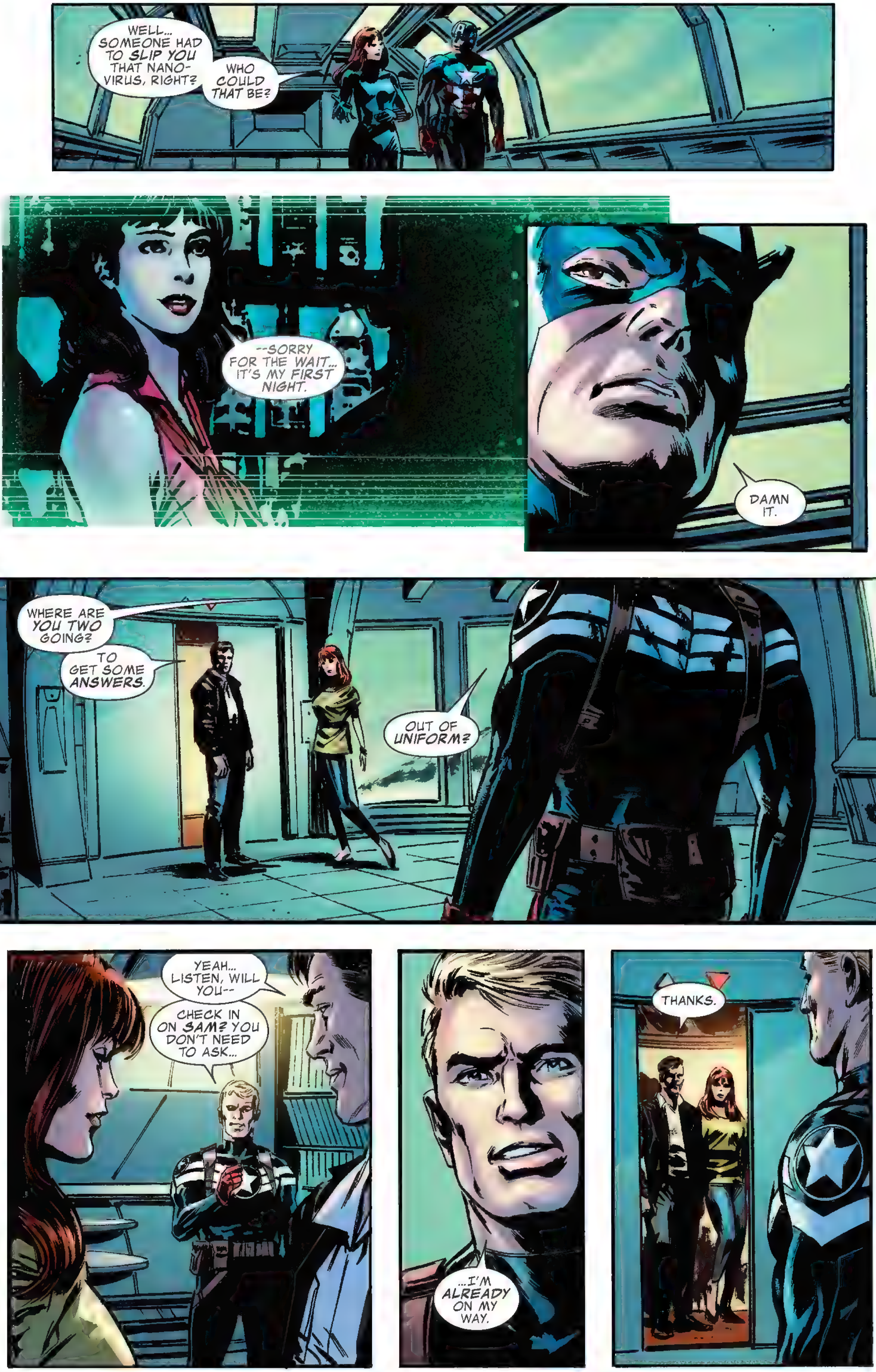

Avengers Tower
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING SHOWING UP ON THESE SCANS, STEVE...
SOMETHING IN HIS BLOODSTREAM.
SOME CHEMICAL?
NOT EXACTLY...
zoom
INITIAL ANALYSIS INDICATES IT'S SOME SORT OF NANOTECH VIRUS...
...RELEASING CONTROLLED DOSES OF HALLUCINOGEN AND MUSCLE RELAXANT.
NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT...
CAN YOU GET IT OUTTA ME, DOCTOR FOSTER?

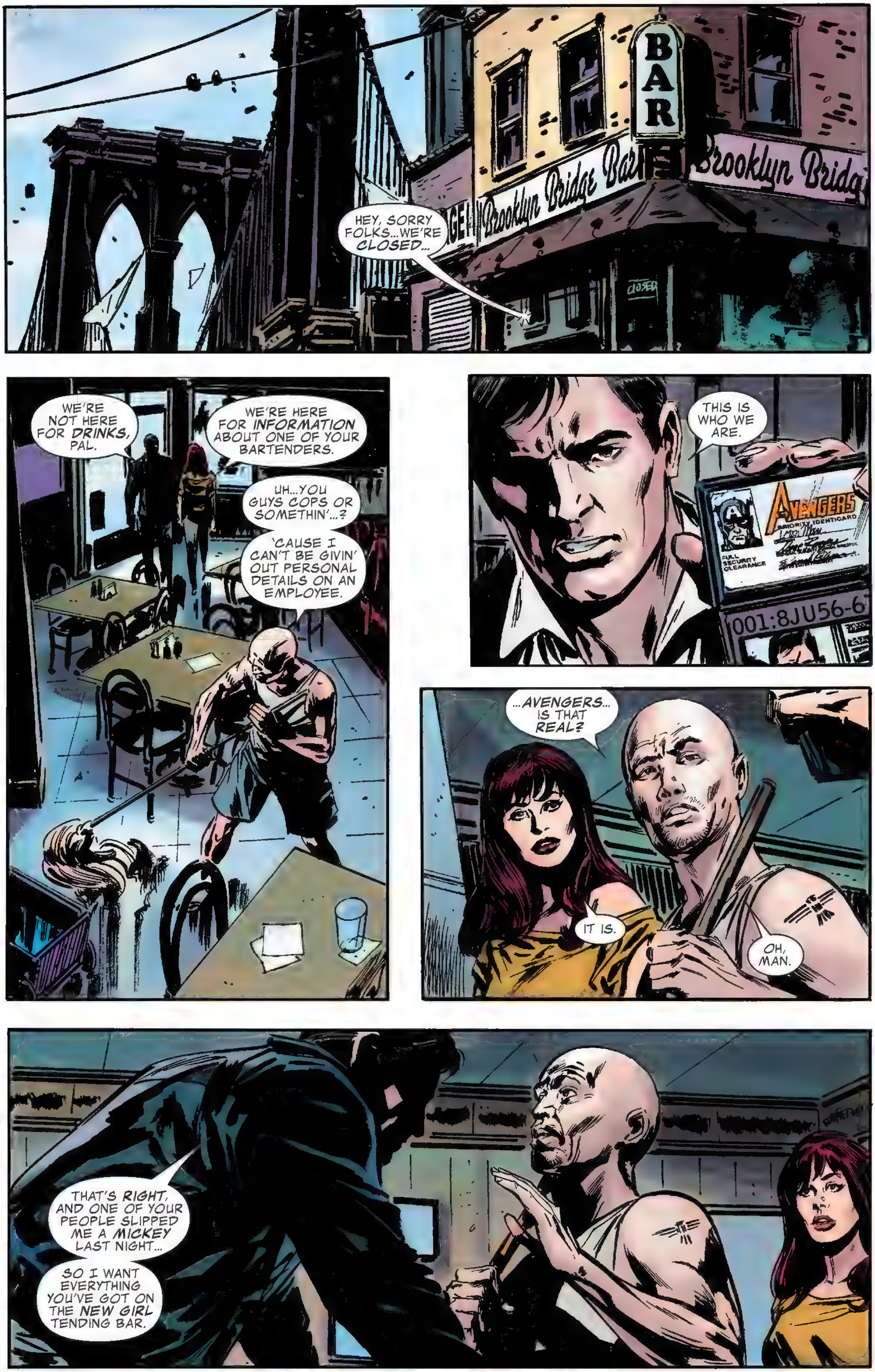

YES...I'M *TARGETING* THE NANO-VIRUS WITH A MODULATED *EMP*...
IT'LL *RICOCHET* AMONG THE NANOBOTS AND *DISRUPT THEM* WITHOUT AFFECTING YOUR CYBERNETIC ARM.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? HOW DO YOU *FEEL* NOW?
...A LITTLE SICK...BUT I'VE BEEN THROUGH WORSE...
HELL, I'D TAKE REGULAR ELECTRO-SHOCK TREATMENTS OVER NOT BEING *IN CONTROL* OF MY OWN MIND.
GOOD TO KNOW...JUST IN *CASE*.
I'LL GET THIS NANO-VIRUS *SAMPLE* OVER TO TONY STARK...
...HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TELL US WHO COULD *MAKE* SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
...AND THEN WE CAN FIGURE OUT WHO EXACTLY IS *TARGETING* YOU.

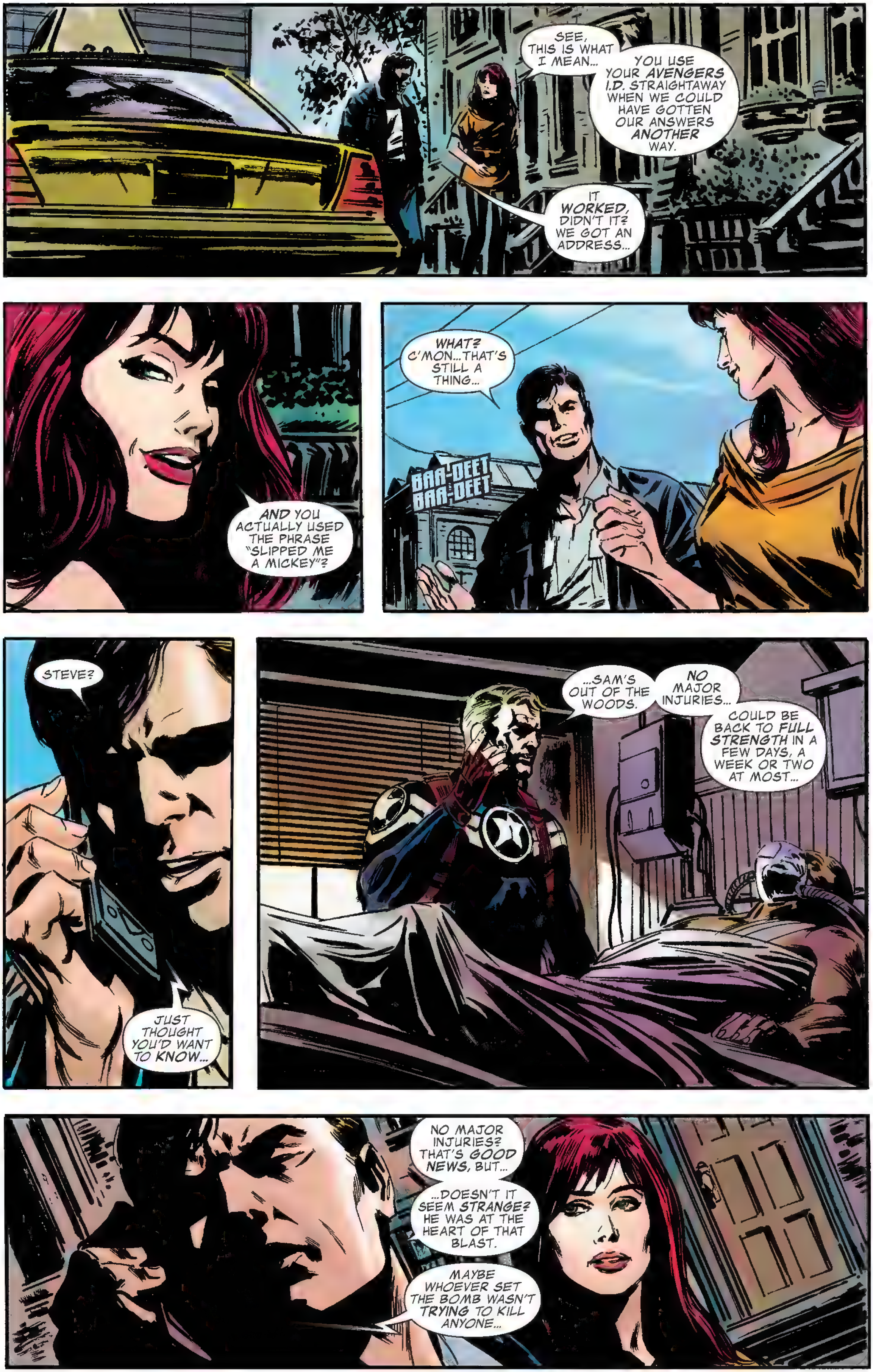

--COULD THE SKULL STILL BE ALIVE AFTER EVERYTHING THAT WENT DOWN?
FAPP FAPP
WITH HIM, YOU NEVER KNOW...BUT IT'S NOT HIS STYLE.
NOT FLAMBOYANT ENOUGH, EVEN WITH HAUPTMANN'S INVOLVEMENT.
TRUE. BUT WHO ELSE KNOWS WHO I REALLY AM?
FAPP
WHO ELSE WOULD KNOW HOW TO FIND ME?
I HATE TO BE THE ONE TO POINT IT OUT, JAMES...
BUT YOU DON'T EXACTLY KEEP A SECRET IDENTITY LIKE OTHER HEROES DO...
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU TAKEN YOUR MASK OFF IN PUBLIC?
NOT THAT MANY...AND MOSTLY JUST AROUND COPS OR FEDS...
STILL.
NATASHA HAS A POINT, BUCK...YOU'RE USED TO--
UH, HEY, GUYS...YOU BETTER COME SEE THIS.

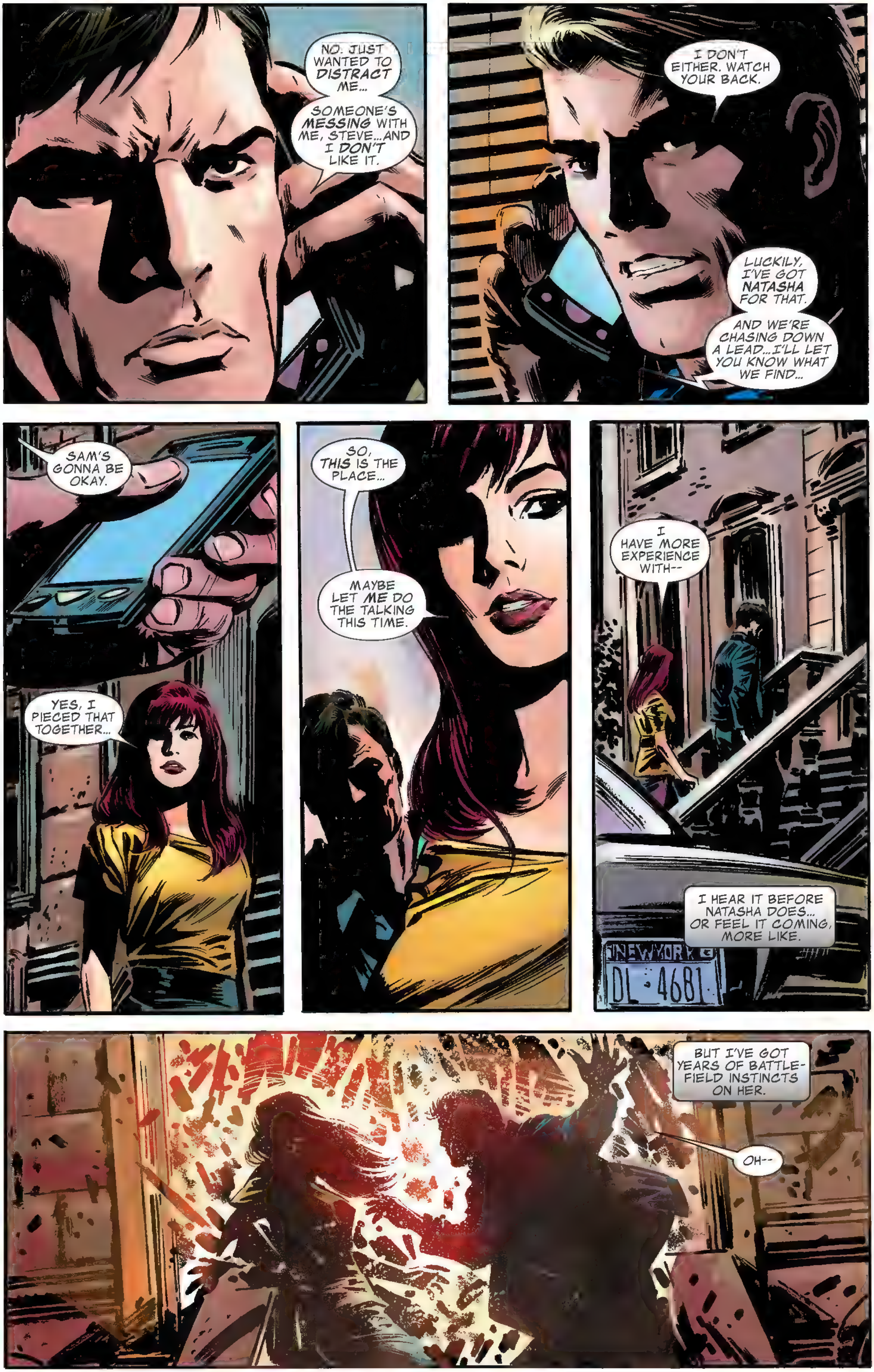

LIVE
BREAKING NEWS
HE ROCKETED TO THE FRONT PAGES BY DRAMATICALLY FOILING AN ASSASSINATION AT THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES.
THEN HE WENT ON TO BECOME AN AVENGER...
LIVE
...AND FOUGHT SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN AMERICA DURING THE SIEGE OF ASGARD...
BREAKING NEWS
LIVE
BUT WHAT DO WE REALLY KNOW ABOUT THE MAN WHO NOW CARRIES THE SHIELD AND CALLS HIMSELF CAPTAIN AMERICA?
HIS BRUTAL ATTACK ON SEVERAL NYPD OFFICERS LAST NIGHT, AFTER HE FENDED OFF AN UNNAMED ASSAILANT...HAS LEFT NEW YORK...
...AND AMERICA... LOOKING FOR ANSWERS FROM THIS MASKED MAN.
06/24/10
...DAMN IT...
TURN IT OFF.

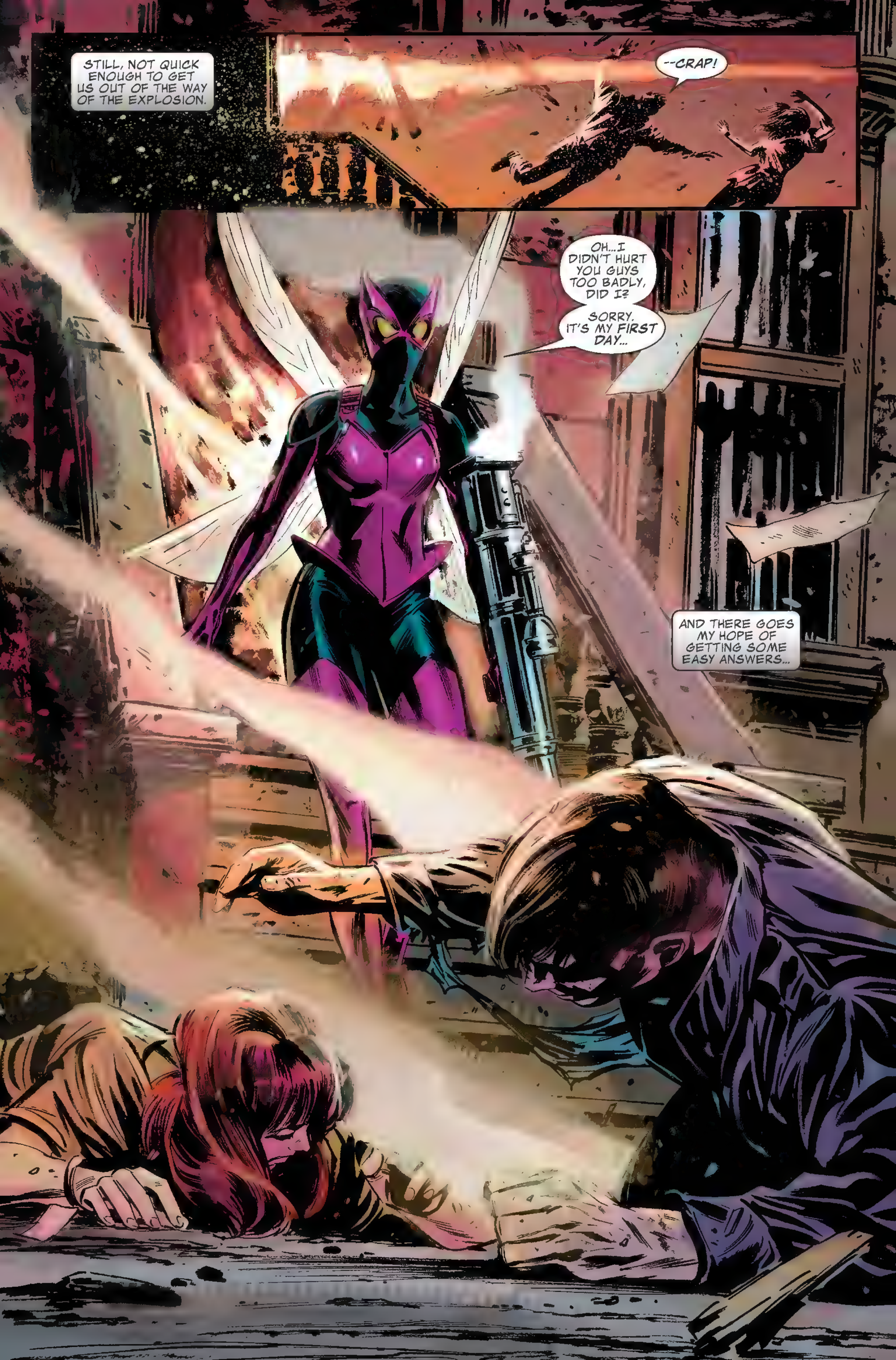

THEY WANT ANSWERS...THEN I'LL DAMN WELL GIVE THEM ANSWERS...
JAMES, STOP.
I WAS DRUGGED, DAMMIT. I DIDN'T JUST--
THIS IS WHAT THEY WANT YOU TO DO.
WHO?
WHOEVER IS AFTER YOU.
THEY WANT YOU DISTRACTED... AND ANGRY.
LOOK AT WHAT THEY'VE DONE ALREADY...
INJURED YOUR PARTNER.
TARNISHED YOUR IMAGE WITH THE PUBLIC.
YOU NEED TO STOP AND THINK BEFORE YOU ACT.
OKAY... SO WHERE DO WE START?

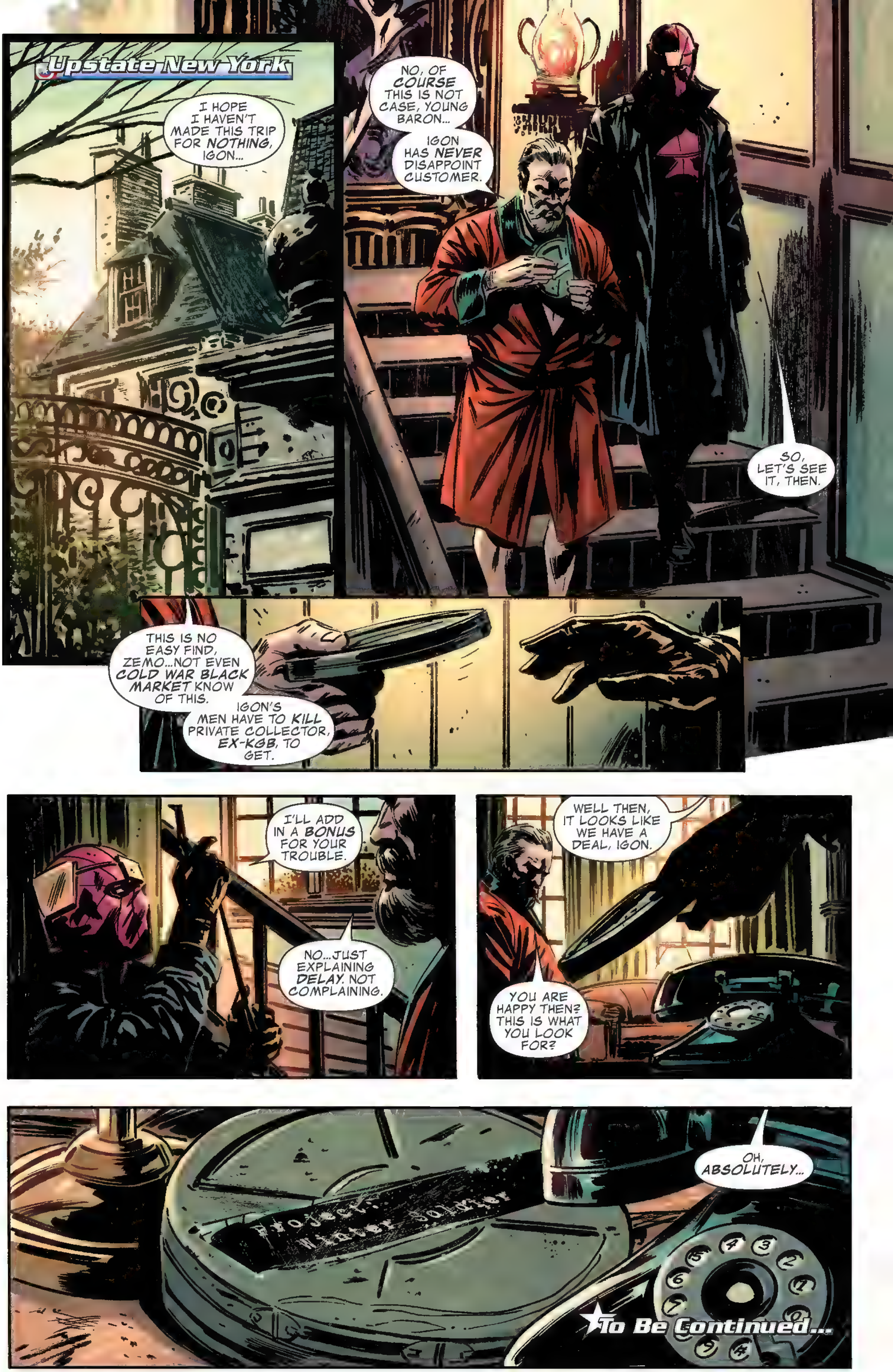

WELL... SOMEONE HAD TO *SLIP YOU* THAT NANO-VIRUS, RIGHT?
WHO COULD *THAT* BE?
--SORRY FOR THE *WAIT*... IT'S MY *FIRST* NIGHT.
DAMN IT.
WHERE ARE *YOU TWO* GOING?
TO GET SOME *ANSWERS*.
OUT OF *UNIFORM*?
YEAH... LISTEN, WILL YOU--
CHECK IN ON *SAM*? YOU DON'T NEED TO ASK...
...I'M *ALREADY* ON MY WAY.
THANKS.


BAR
Brooklyn Bridge Bar
Brooklyn Bridg
CLOSED
HEY, SORRY FOLKS...WE'RE *CLOSED*...
WE'RE NOT HERE FOR *DRINKS*, PAL.
WE'RE HERE FOR *INFORMATION* ABOUT ONE OF YOUR BARTENDERS.
UH...YOU GUYS COPS OR SOMETHIN'...?
'CAUSE I CAN'T BE GIVIN' OUT PERSONAL DETAILS ON AN EMPLOYEE.
THIS IS WHO WE ARE.
AVENGERS
PRIORITY IDENTICARD
FULL SECURITY CLEARANCE
001:8JU56-6
...*AVENGERS*... IS THAT *REAL?*
IT IS.
OH, MAN.
THAT'S *RIGHT*, AND ONE OF YOUR PEOPLE SLIPPED ME A *MICKEY* LAST NIGHT...
SO I WANT EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT ON THE *NEW GIRL* TENDING BAR.


SEE, THIS IS WHAT I MEAN...
YOU USE YOUR AVENGERS I.D. STRAIGHTAWAY WHEN WE COULD HAVE GOTTEN OUR ANSWERS ANOTHER WAY.
IT WORKED, DIDN'T IT? WE GOT AN ADDRESS...
AND YOU ACTUALLY USED THE PHRASE "SLIPPED ME A MICKEY"?
WHAT? C'MON...THAT'S STILL A THING...
BRR-DEET BRR-DEET
STEVE?
JUST THOUGHT YOU'D WANT TO KNOW...
...SAM'S OUT OF THE WOODS.
NO MAJOR INJURIES...
COULD BE BACK TO FULL STRENGTH IN A FEW DAYS, A WEEK OR TWO AT MOST...
NO MAJOR INJURIES? THAT'S GOOD NEWS, BUT...
...DOESN'T IT SEEM STRANGE? HE WAS AT THE HEART OF THAT BLAST.
MAYBE WHOEVER SET THE BOMB WASN'T TRYING TO KILL ANYONE...


NO. JUST WANTED TO DISTRACT ME...
SOMEONE'S MESSING WITH ME, STEVE...AND I DON'T LIKE IT.
I DON'T EITHER. WATCH YOUR BACK.
LUCKILY, I'VE GOT NATASHA FOR THAT.
AND WE'RE CHASING DOWN A LEAD...I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHAT WE FIND...
SAM'S GONNA BE OKAY.
YES, I PIECED THAT TOGETHER...
SO, THIS IS THE PLACE...
MAYBE LET ME DO THE TALKING THIS TIME.
I HAVE MORE EXPERIENCE WITH--
I HEAR IT BEFORE NATASHA DOES... OR FEEL IT COMING, MORE LIKE.
NEW YORK
DL 4681
BUT I'VE GOT YEARS OF BATTLE-FIELD INSTINCTS ON HER.
OH--


STILL, NOT QUICK ENOUGH TO GET US OUT OF THE WAY OF THE EXPLOSION.
--CRAP!
OH...I DIDN'T HURT YOU GUYS TOO BADLY, DID I?
SORRY. IT'S MY FIRST DAY...
AND THERE GOES MY HOPE OF GETTING SOME EASY ANSWERS...


Upstate New York
I HOPE I HAVEN'T MADE THIS TRIP FOR NOTHING, IGON...
NO, OF COURSE THIS IS NOT CASE, YOUNG BARON...
IGON HAS NEVER DISAPPOINT CUSTOMER.
SO, LET'S SEE IT, THEN.
THIS IS NO EASY FIND, ZEMO...NOT EVEN COLD WAR BLACK MARKET KNOW OF THIS.
IGON'S MEN HAVE TO KILL PRIVATE COLLECTOR, EX-KGB, TO GET.
I'LL ADD IN A BONUS FOR YOUR TROUBLE.
NO...JUST EXPLAINING DELAY. NOT COMPLAINING.
WELL THEN, IT LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A DEAL, IGON.
YOU ARE HAPPY THEN? THIS IS WHAT YOU LOOK FOR?
OH, ABSOLUTELY...
Project: Winter Soldier
To Be Continued...

THE HEROIC AGE
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BRUBAKER
GUICE
MAGYAR
WHITE
ZEMO
ALSO FEATURING
NOMAD

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RY U.S.
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Is Begun
ngress Takes
Prompt Action

CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But there are some who are not happy that Bucky, thought killed towards the end of the war, is still alive. The son of the original Baron Zemo, Baron Helmut Zemo, recently discovered that his father failed to kill Bucky in World War II. Determined to destroy Bucky's life, Zemo attacked Buck's partner, the Falcon, and had Bucky drugged, causing him to hallucinate and attack several police officers.

Attempting to clear his name, Bucky and Natasha Romanova, the Black Widow, tracked down the bartender they believe drugged him, but got more than they bargained for when she revealed herself to be the newest incarnation of the villain called The Beetle!

NO ESCAPE part 3

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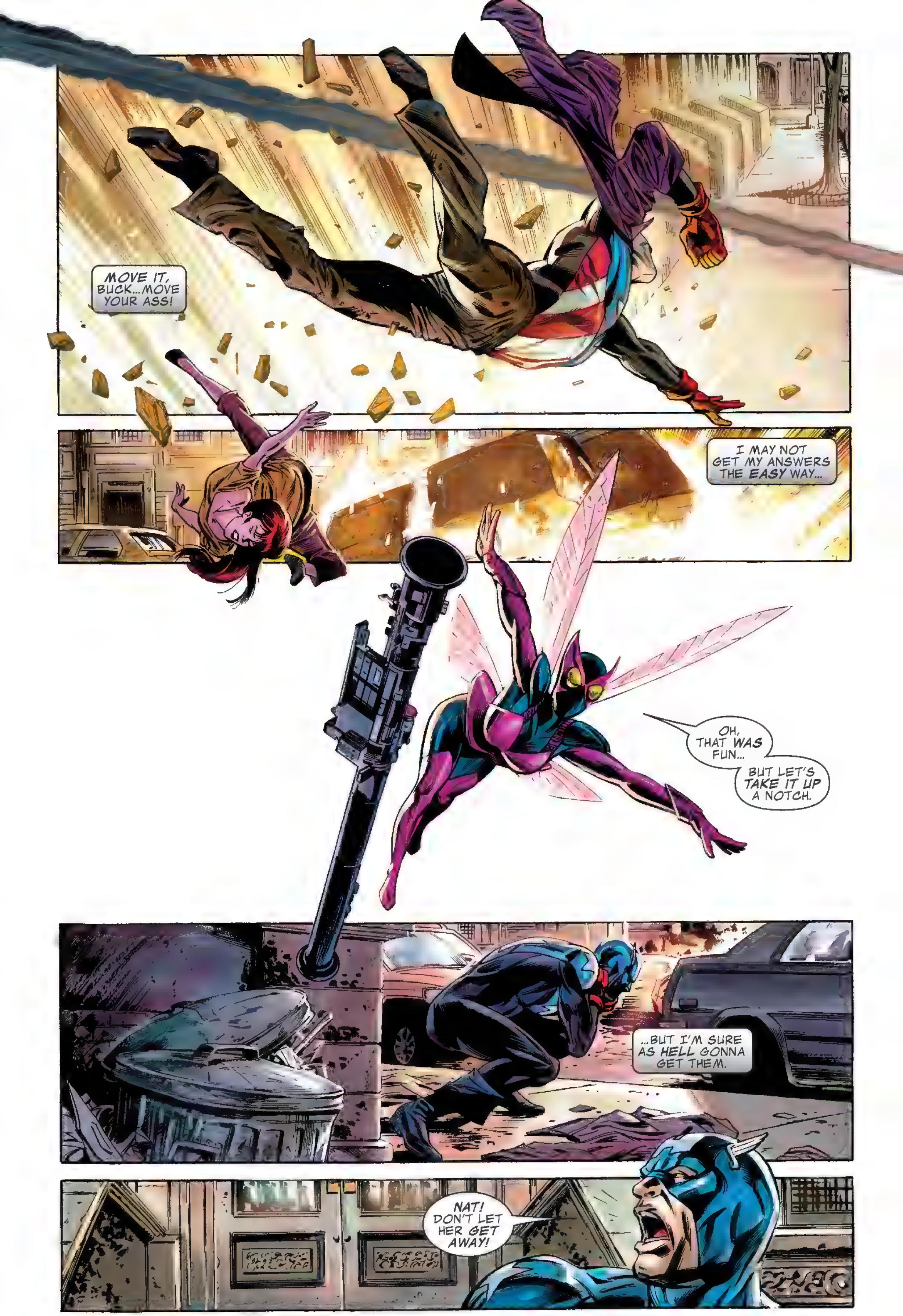
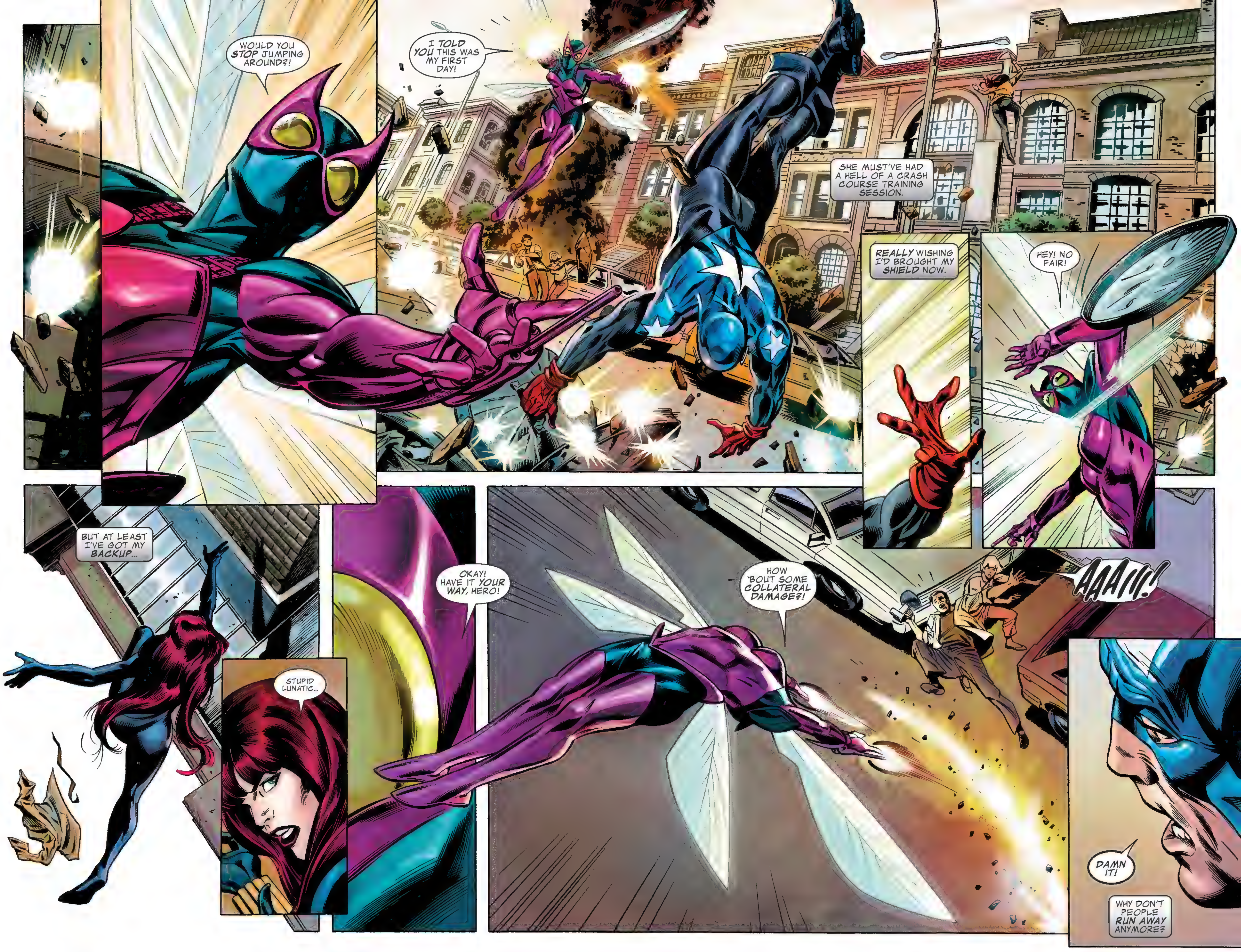
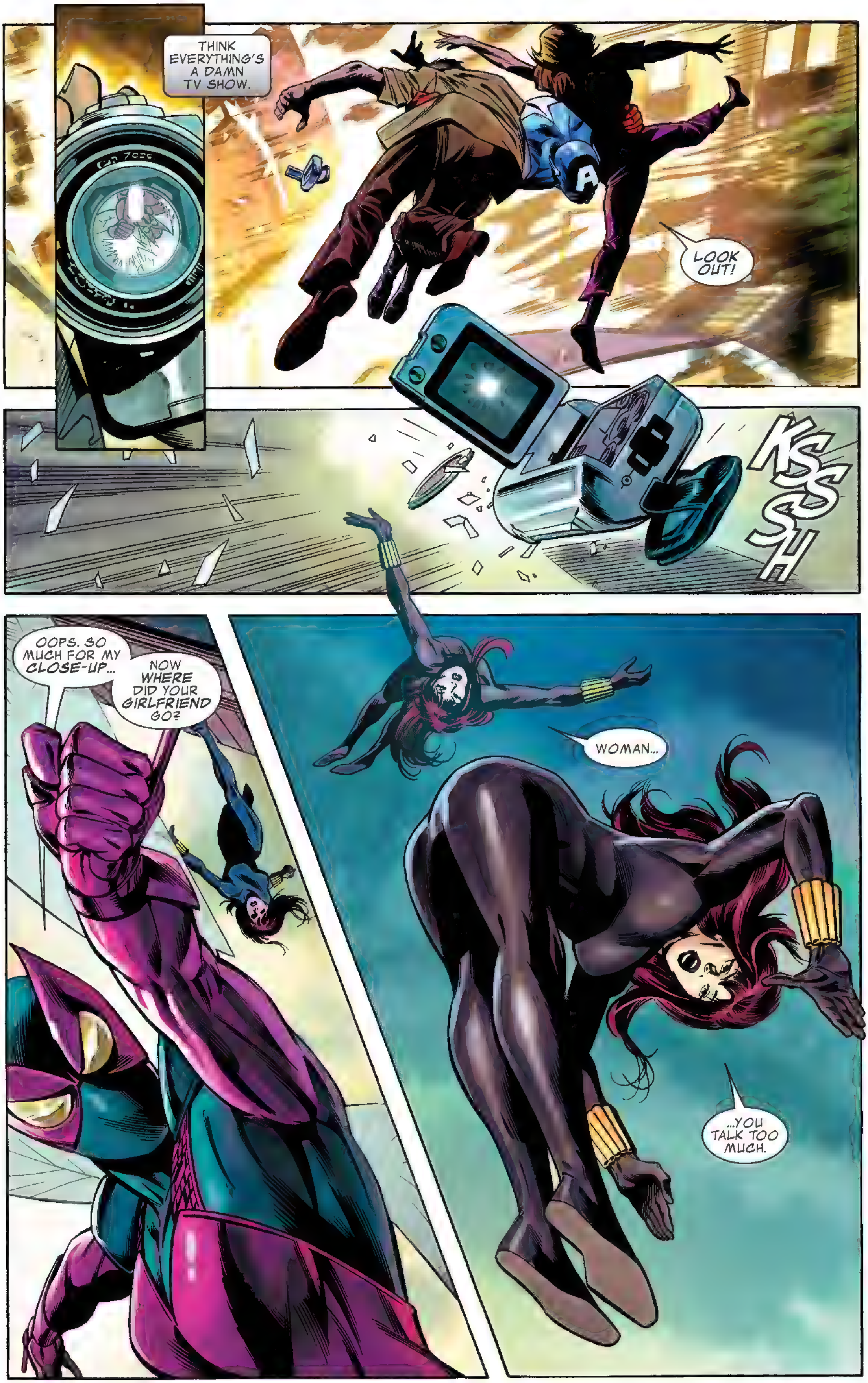
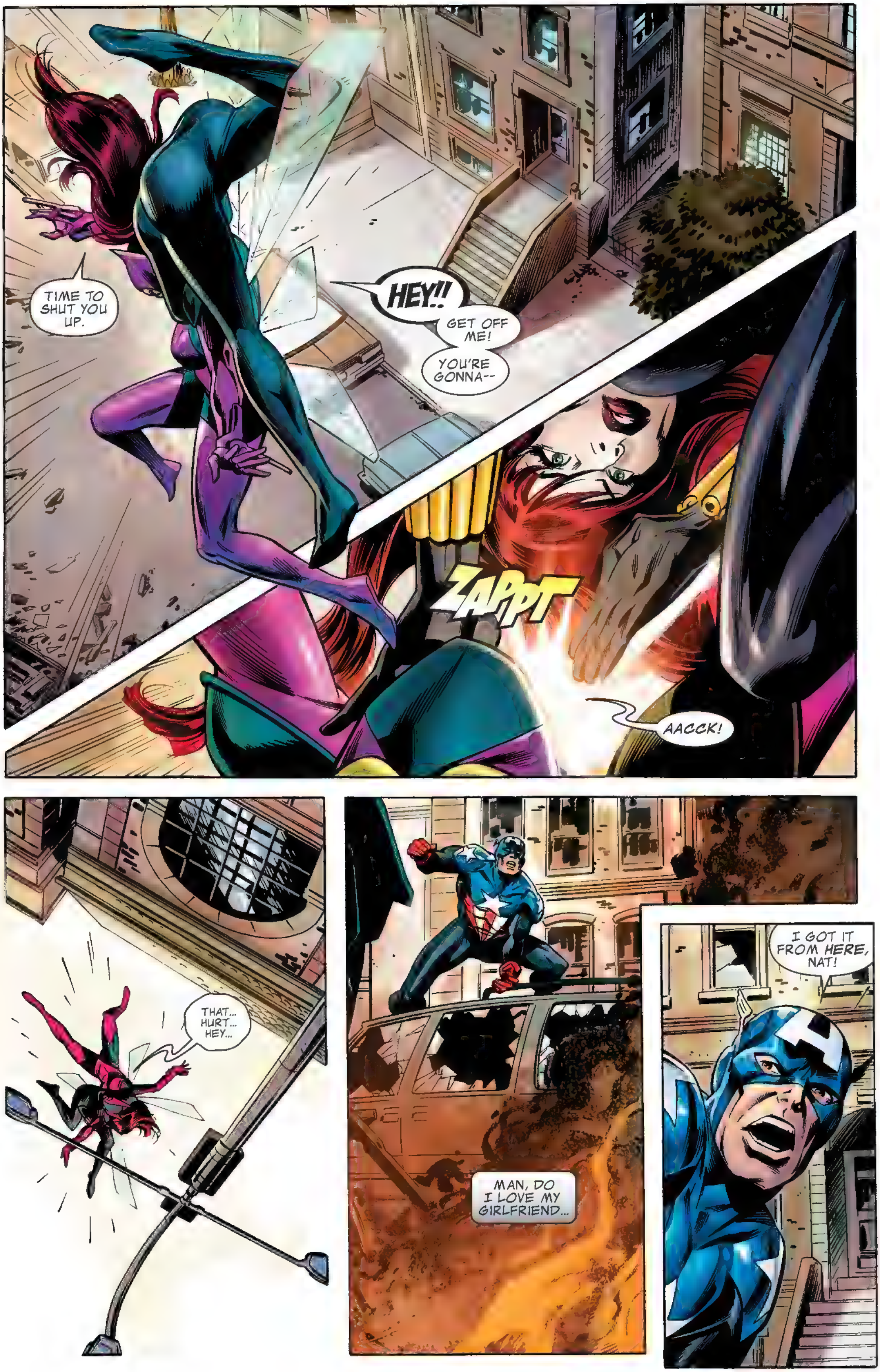
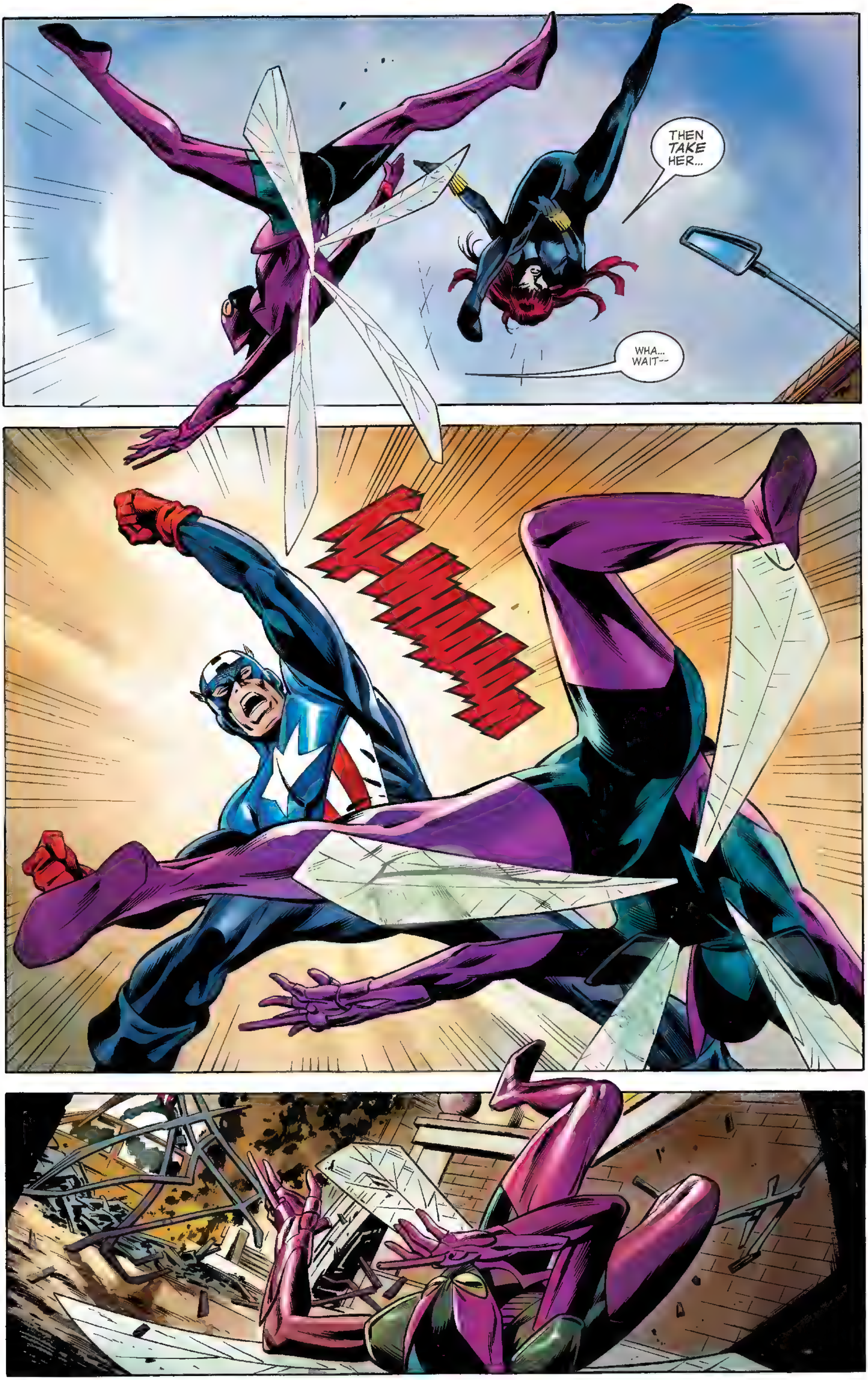
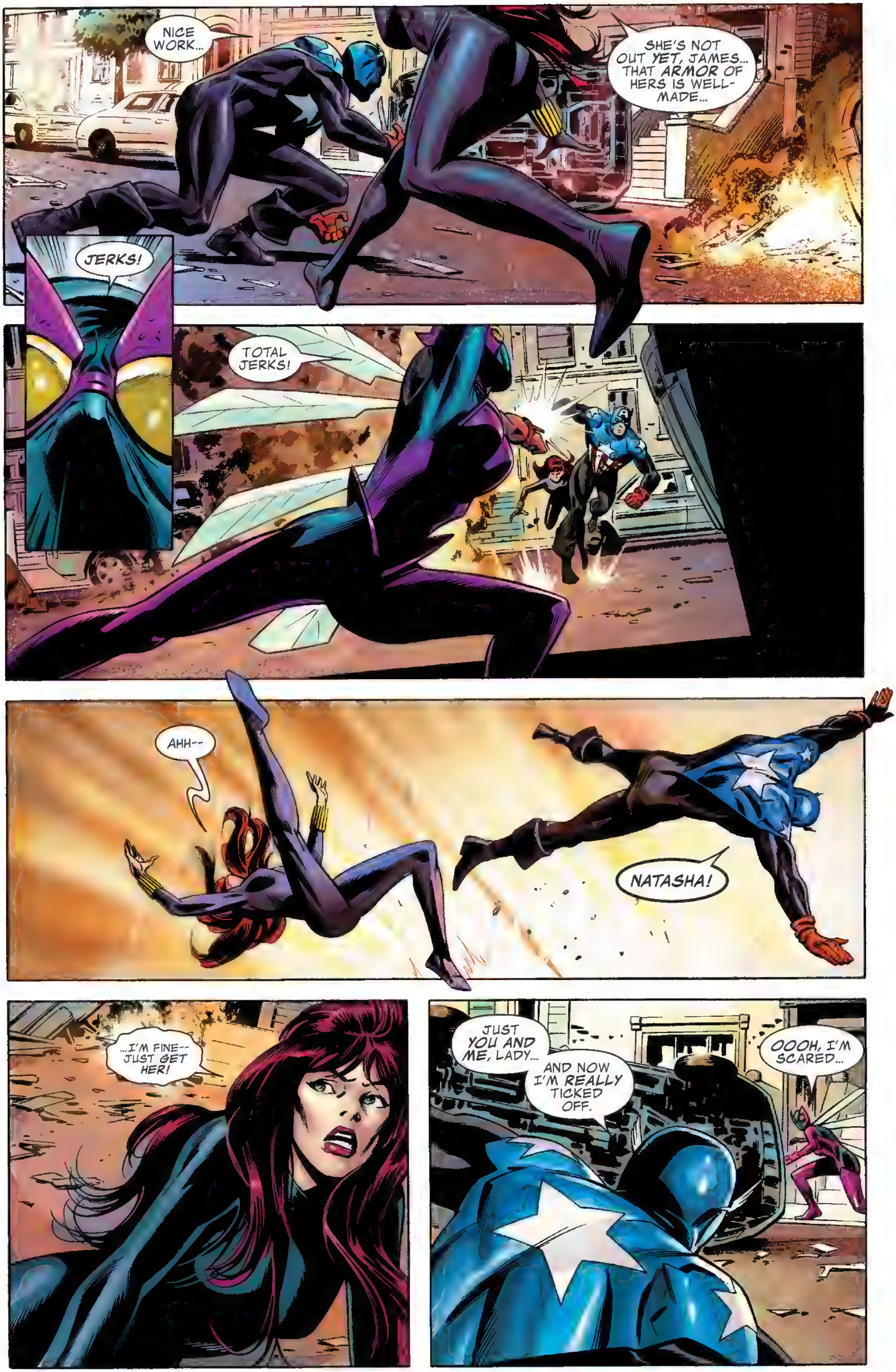

MOVE IT, BUCK...MOVE YOUR ASS!
I MAY NOT GET MY ANSWERS THE *EASY* WAY...
OH, THAT *WAS* FUN...
BUT LET'S *TAKE IT UP* A NOTCH.
...BUT I'M SURE AS *HELL* GONNA GET THEM.
NAT! DON'T LET HER *GET AWAY!*

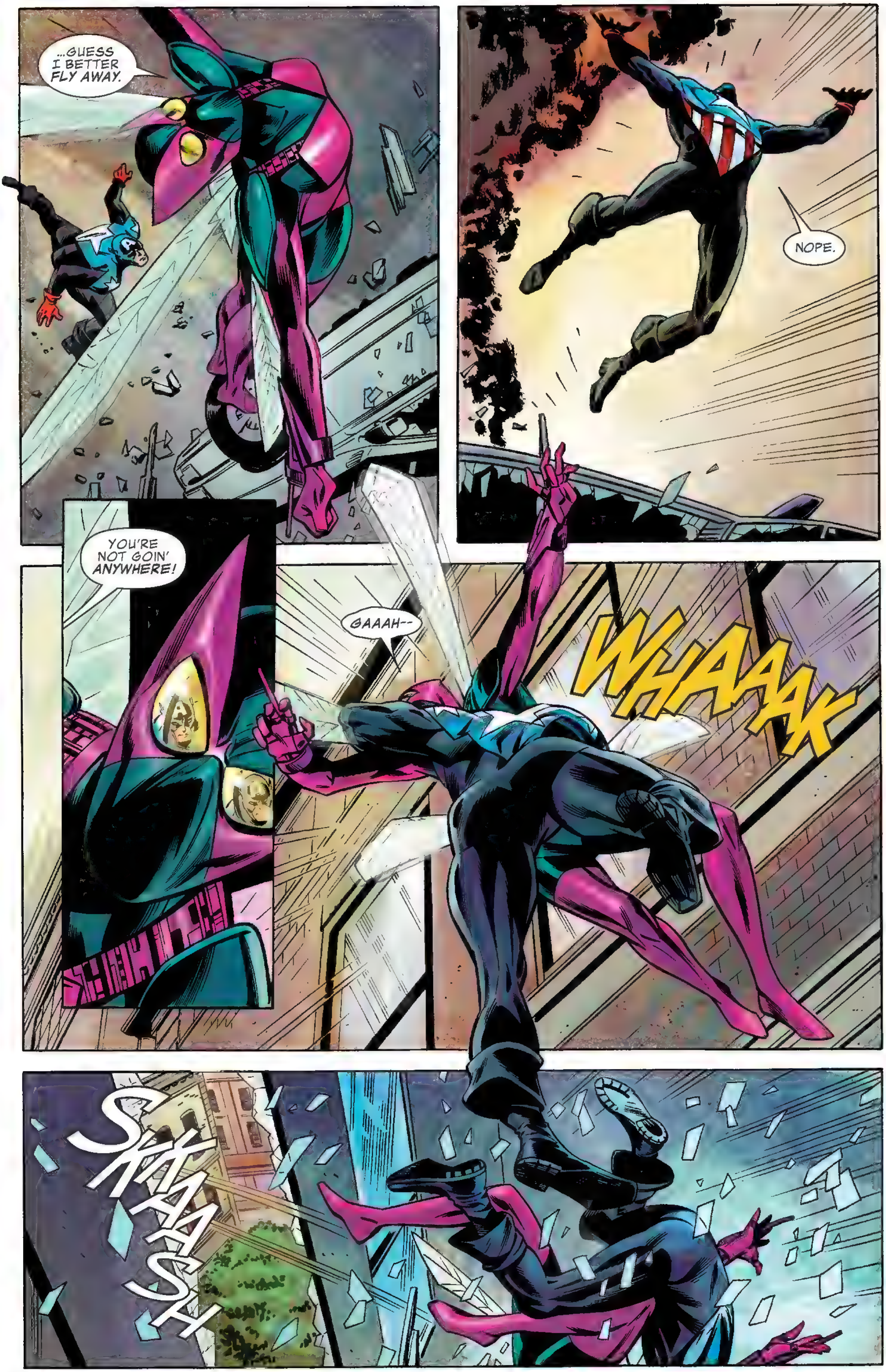

WOULD YOU STOP JUMPING AROUND?!
I TOLD YOU THIS WAS MY FIRST DAY!
SHE MUST'VE HAD A HELL OF A CRASH COURSE TRAINING SESSION.
REALLY WISHING I'D BROUGHT MY SHIELD NOW.
HEY! NO FAIR!
BUT AT LEAST I'VE GOT MY BACKUP...
STUPID LUNATIC...
OKAY! HAVE IT YOUR WAY, HERO!
HOW 'BOUT SOME COLLATERAL DAMAGE?!
AAAII!
DAMN IT!
WHY DON'T PEOPLE RUN AWAY ANYMORE?

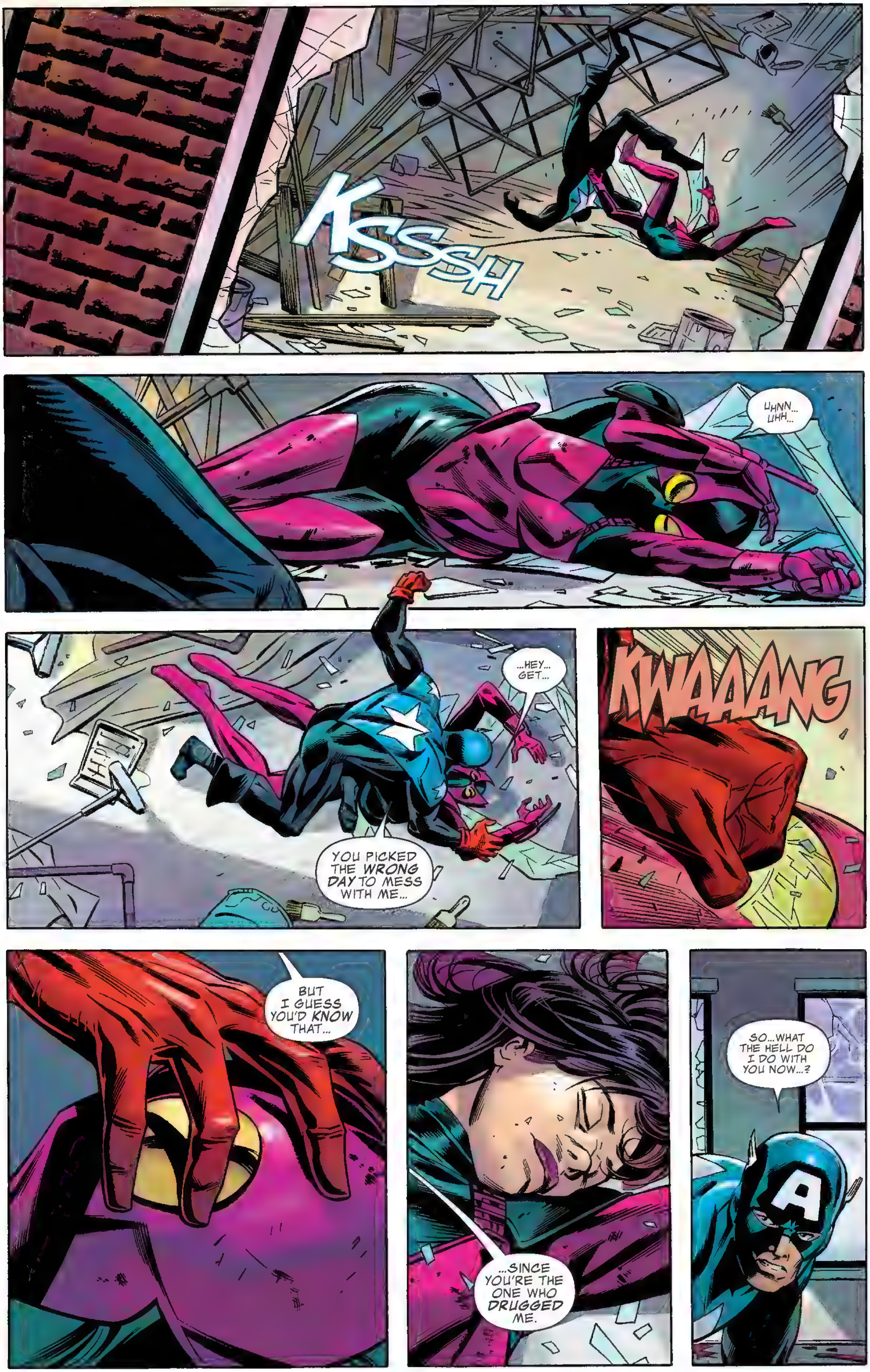

THINK EVERYTHING'S A DAMN TV SHOW.
LOOK OUT!
KSSSH
OOPS. SO MUCH FOR MY CLOSE-UP...
NOW WHERE DID YOUR GIRLFRIEND GO?
WOMAN...
...YOU TALK TOO MUCH.

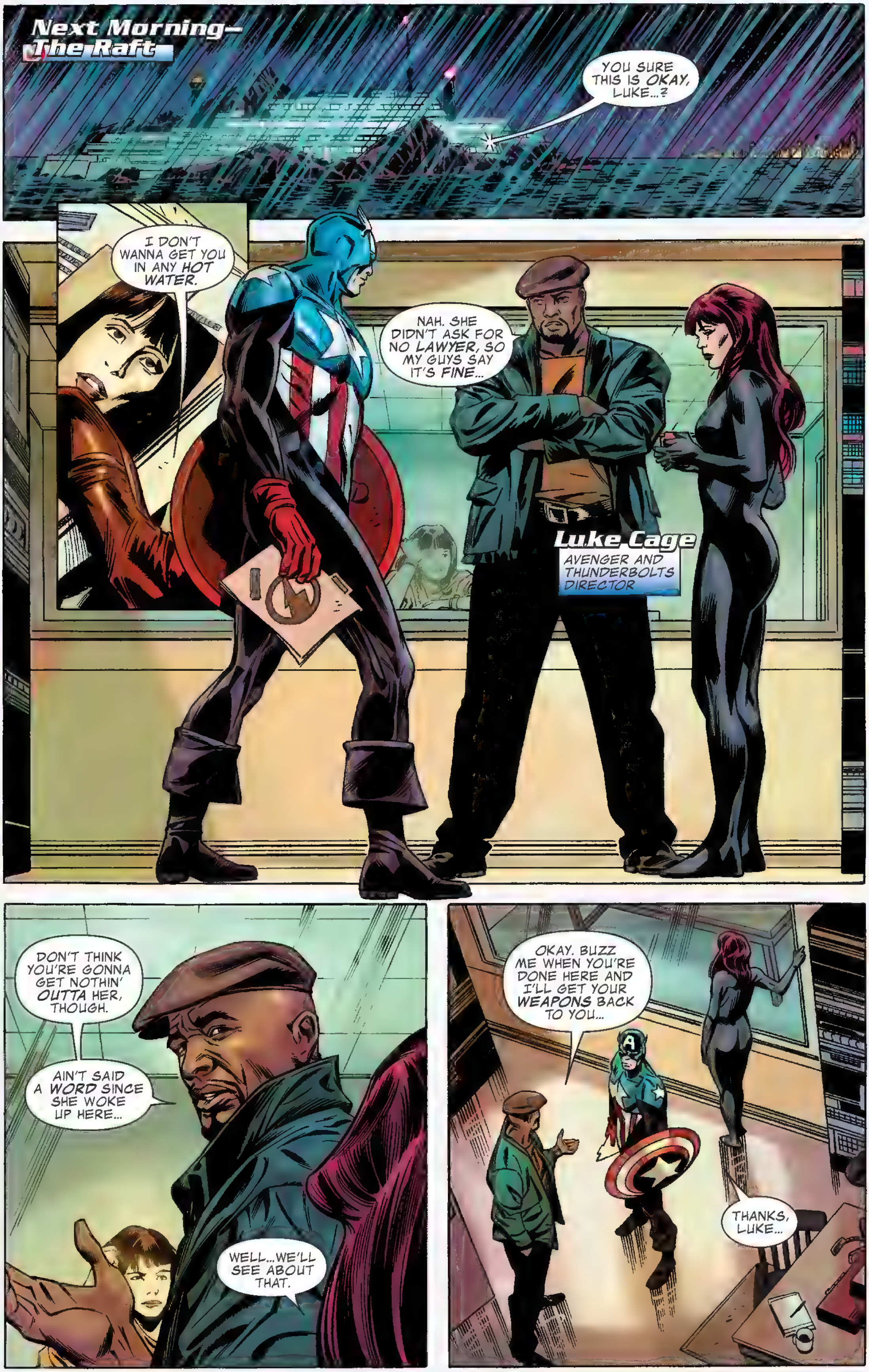

TIME TO SHUT YOU UP.
HEY!!
GET OFF ME!
YOU'RE GONNA--
ZAPPT
AACCK!
THAT... HURT... HEY...
MAN, DO I LOVE MY GIRLFRIEND...
I GOT IT FROM HERE, NAT!

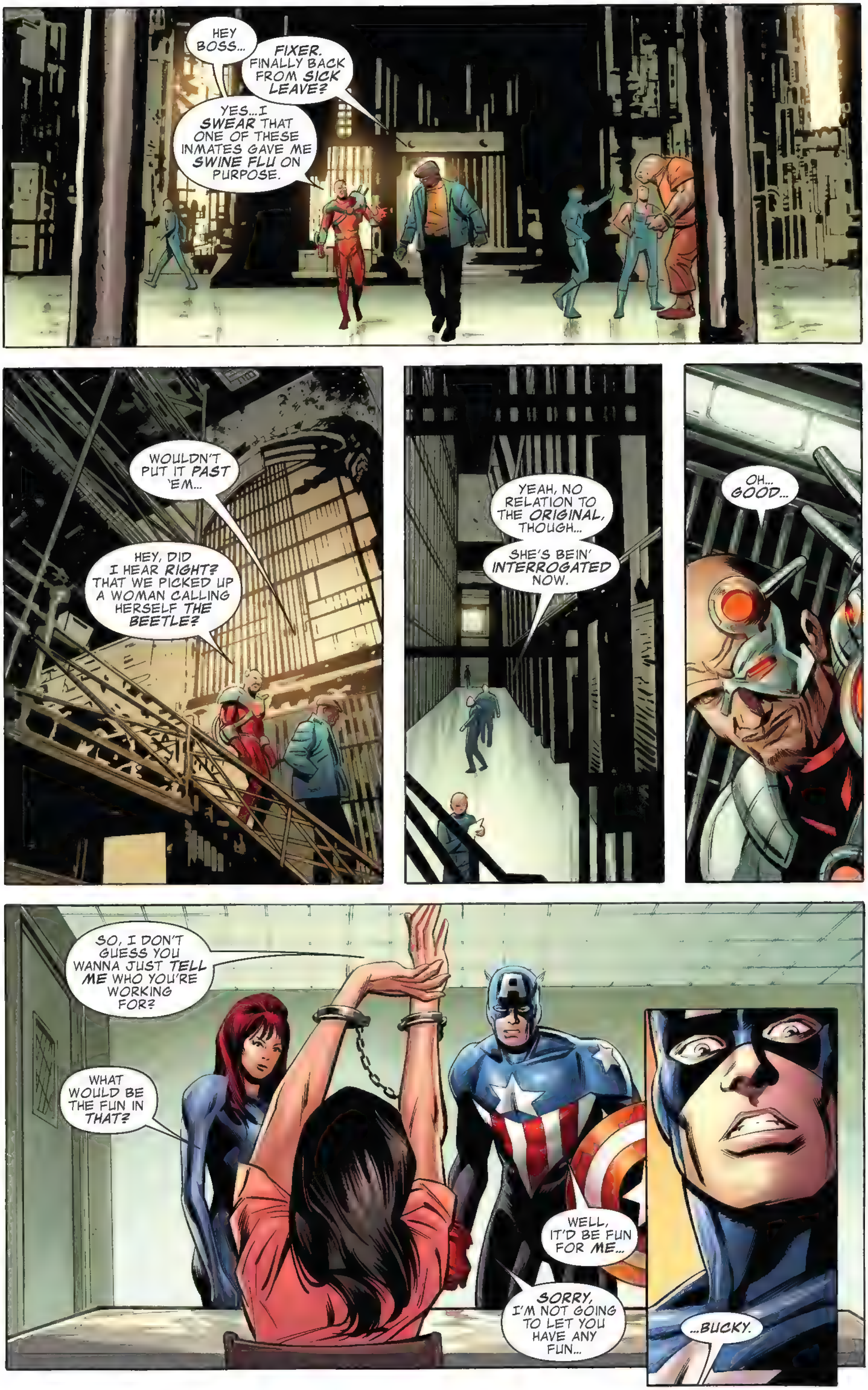

THEN *TAKE* HER...
WHA... WAIT--

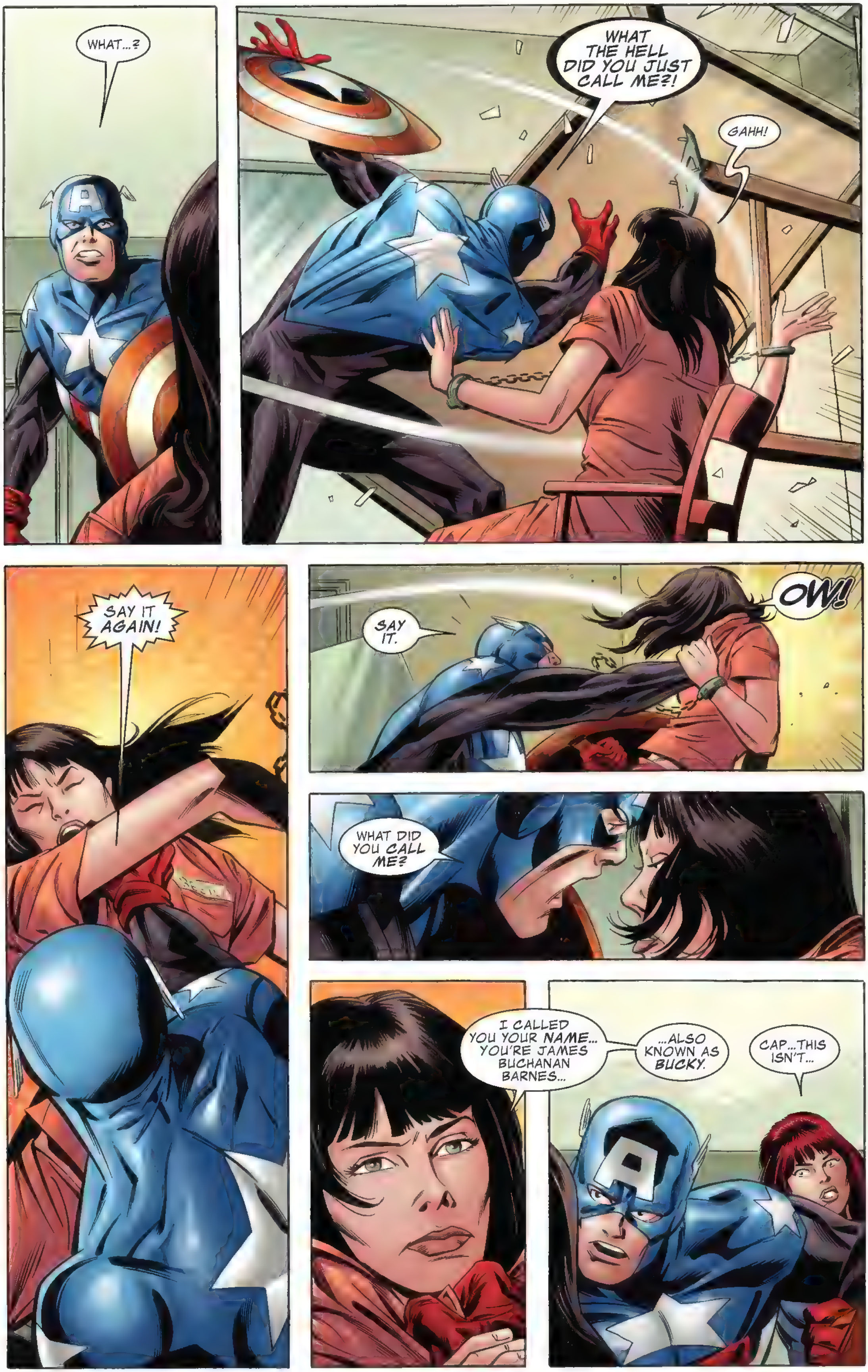

NICE WORK...
SHE'S NOT OUT YET, JAMES... THAT ARMOR OF HERS IS WELL-MADE...
JERKS!
TOTAL JERKS!
AHH--
NATASHA!
...I'M FINE-- JUST GET HER!
JUST YOU AND ME, LADY...
AND NOW I'M REALLY TICKED OFF.
OOOH, I'M SCARED...

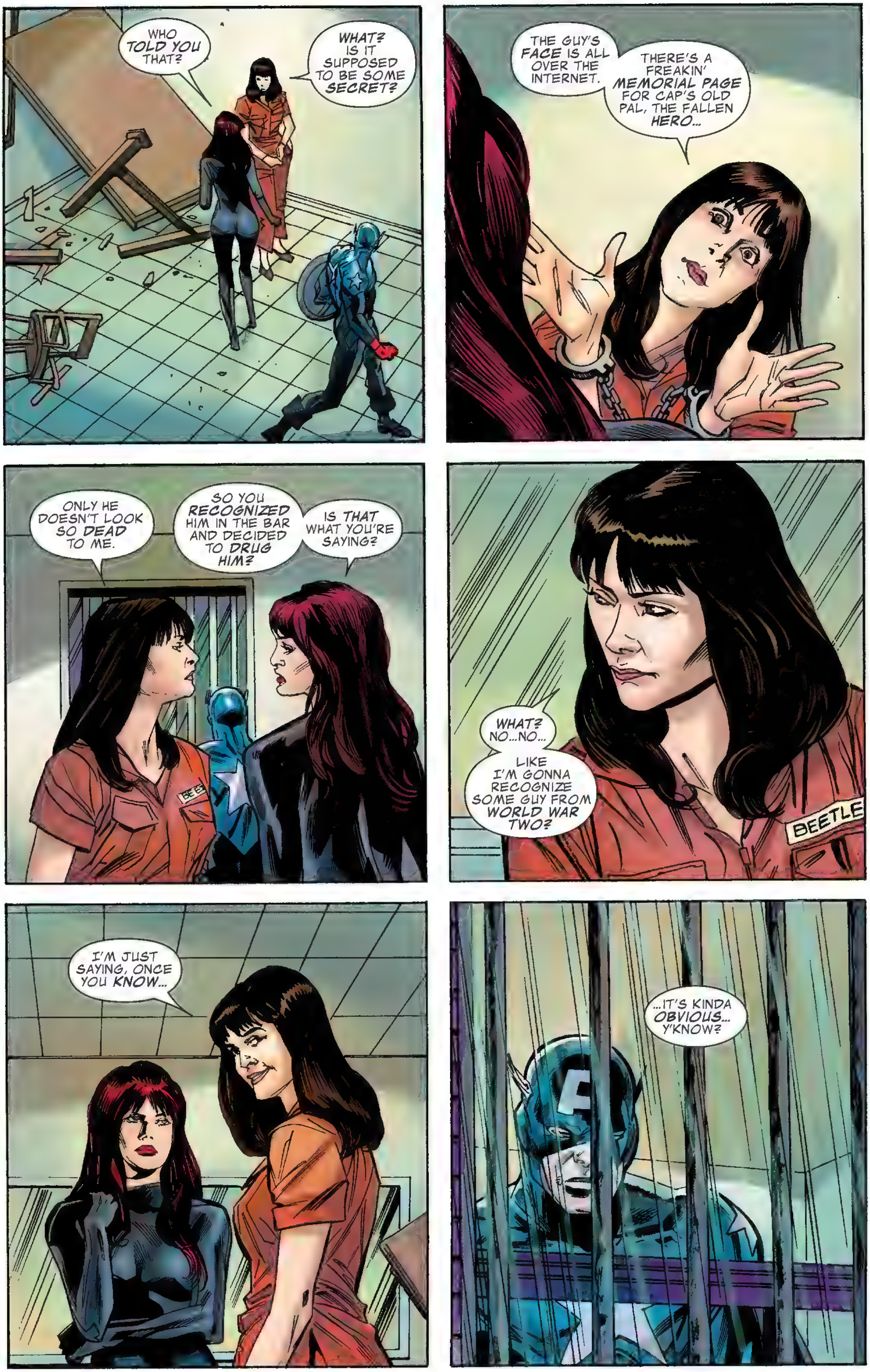

...GUESS I BETTER FLY AWAY.
NOPE.
YOU'RE NOT GOIN' ANYWHERE!
GAAAH--
WHAAAK
SKAAASH

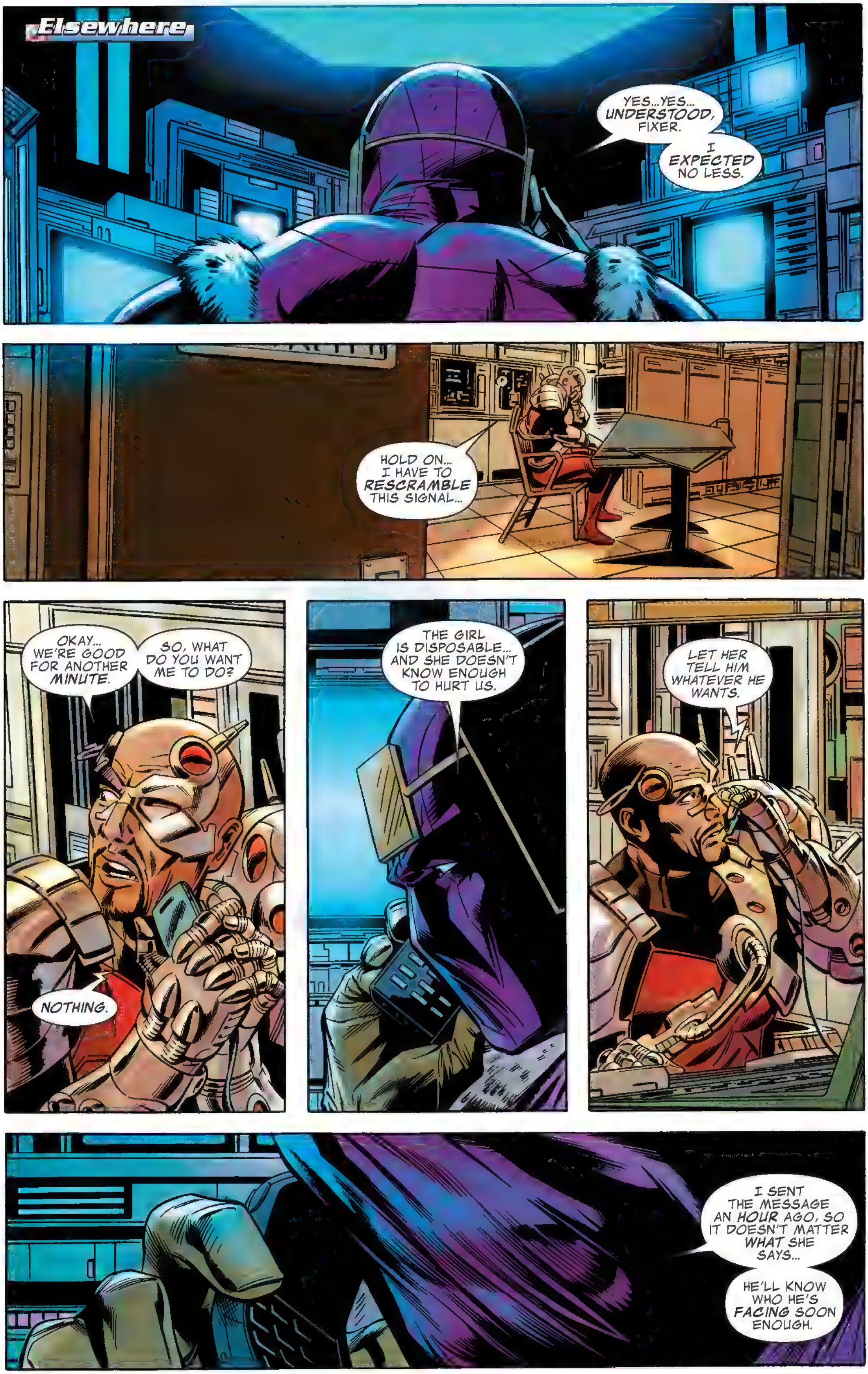

KSSSH
UHNN... UHH...
...HEY... GET...
YOU PICKED THE WRONG DAY TO MESS WITH ME...
KWAAANG
BUT I GUESS YOU'D KNOW THAT...
...SINCE YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DRUGGED ME.
SO...WHAT THE HELL DO I DO WITH YOU NOW...?

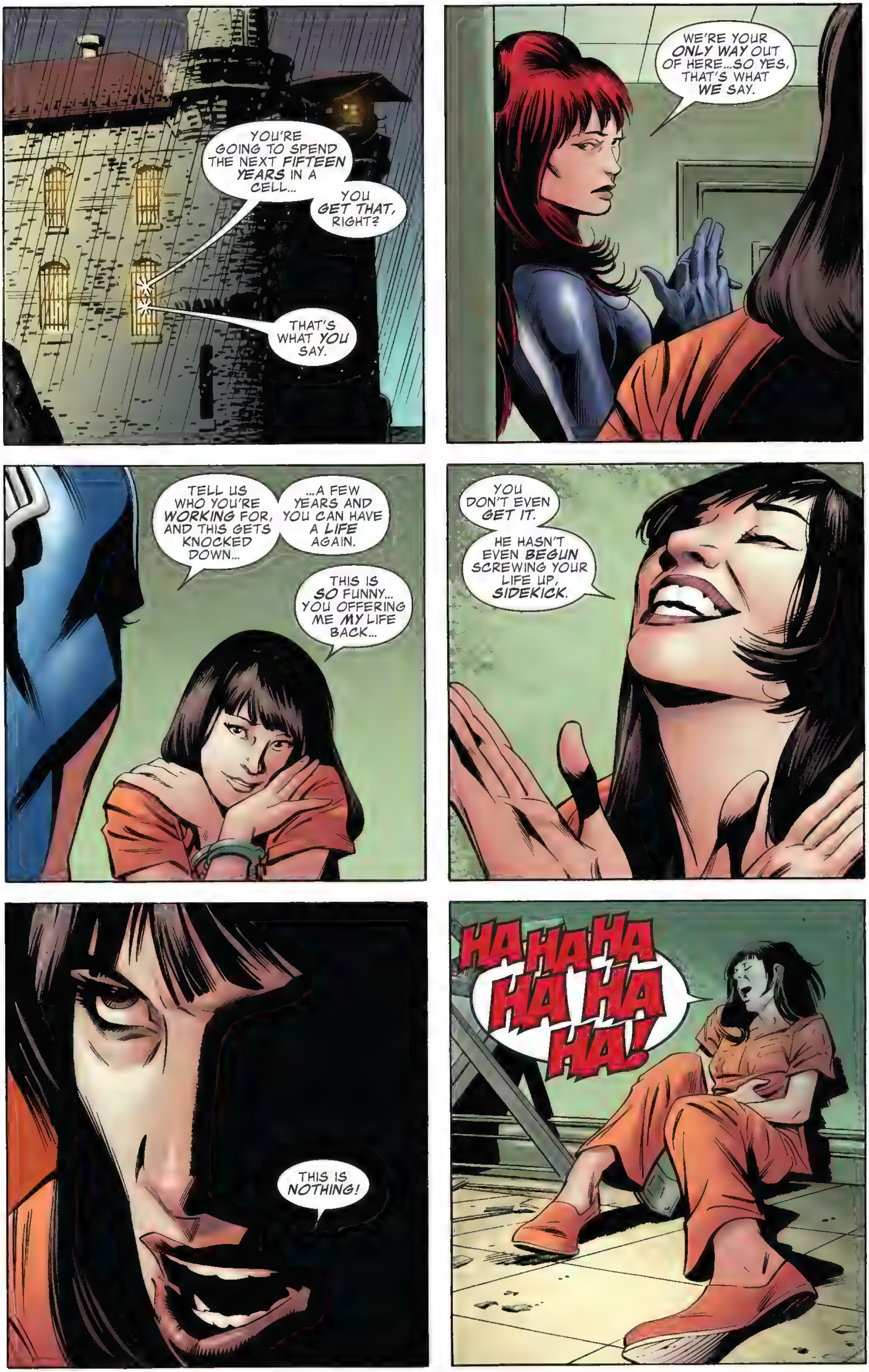

Next Morning—
The Raft
YOU SURE THIS IS *OKAY*, LUKE...?
I DON'T WANNA GET YOU IN ANY *HOT WATER*.
NAH. SHE DIDN'T ASK FOR NO *LAWYER*, SO MY GUYS SAY IT'S *FINE*...
Luke Cage
AVENGER AND THUNDERBOLTS DIRECTOR
DON'T THINK YOU'RE GONNA GET NOTHIN' *OUTTA* HER, THOUGH.
AIN'T SAID A *WORD* SINCE SHE WOKE UP HERE...
WELL...WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.
OKAY. BUZZ ME WHEN YOU'RE DONE HERE AND I'LL GET YOUR *WEAPONS* BACK TO YOU...
THANKS, LUKE...

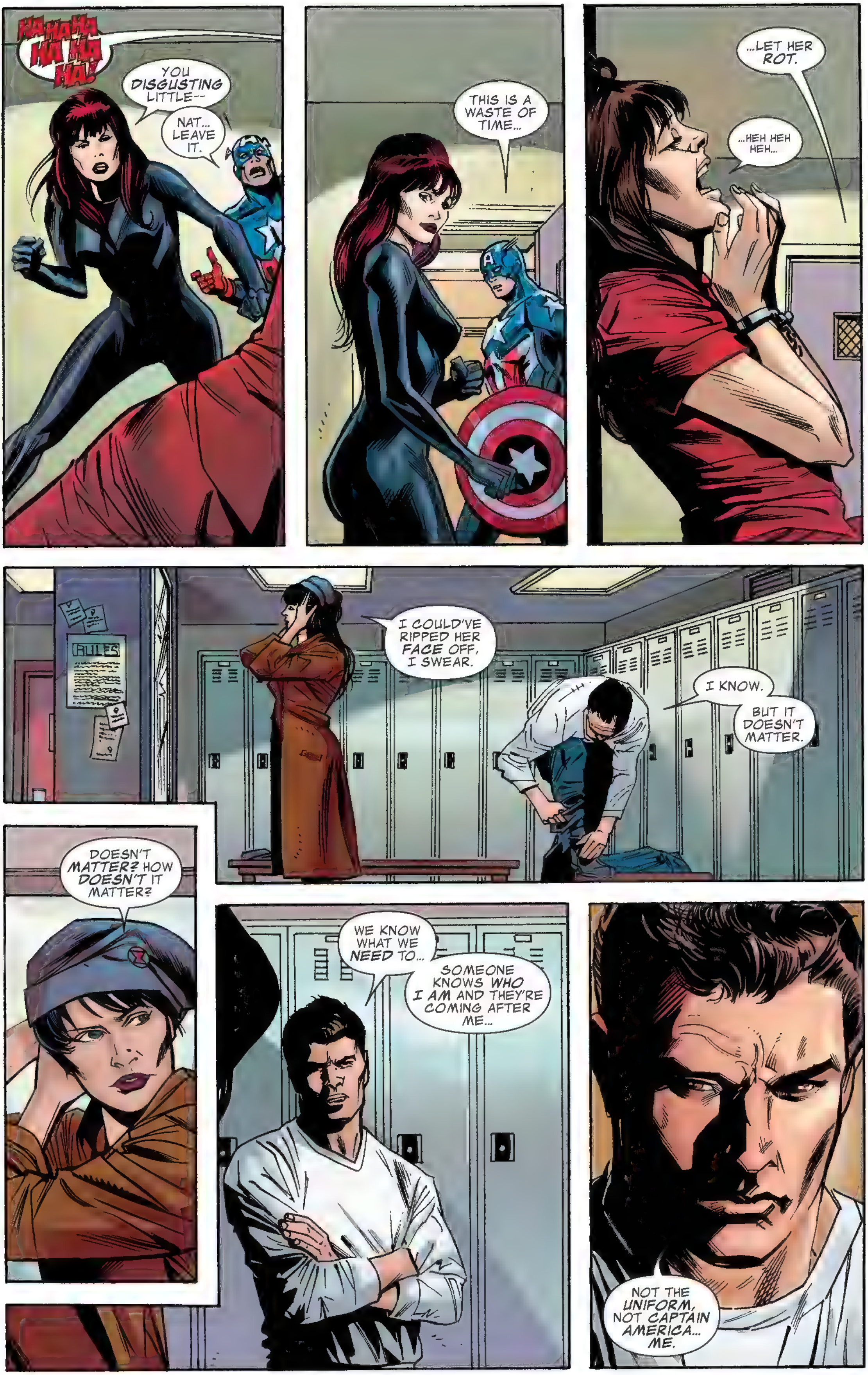

HEY BOSS...
FIXER. FINALLY BACK FROM SICK LEAVE?
YES...I SWEAR THAT ONE OF THESE INMATES GAVE ME SWINE FLU ON PURPOSE.
WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST 'EM...
HEY, DID I HEAR RIGHT? THAT WE PICKED UP A WOMAN CALLING HERSELF THE BEETLE?
YEAH, NO RELATION TO THE ORIGINAL, THOUGH...
SHE'S BEIN' INTERROGATED NOW.
OH... GOOD...
SO, I DON'T GUESS YOU WANNA JUST TELL ME WHO YOU'RE WORKING FOR?
WHAT WOULD BE THE FUN IN THAT?
WELL, IT'D BE FUN FOR ME...
SORRY, I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU HAVE ANY FUN...
...BUCKY.

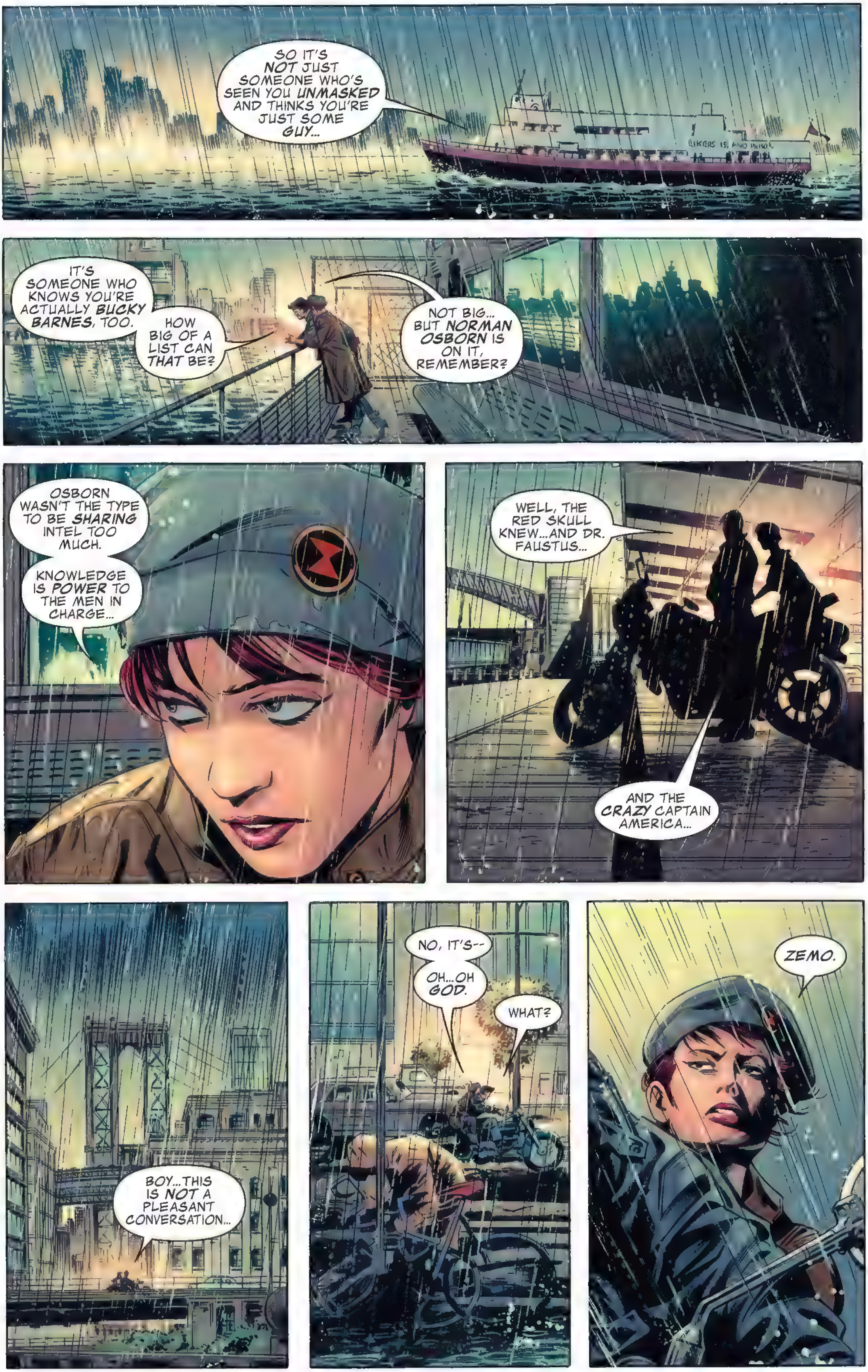

WHAT...?
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU JUST CALL ME?!
GAHH!
SAY IT AGAIN!
SAY IT.
OW!
WHAT DID YOU CALL ME?
I CALLED YOU YOUR NAME... YOU'RE JAMES BUCHANAN BARNES...
...ALSO KNOWN AS BUCKY.
CAP...THIS ISN'T...

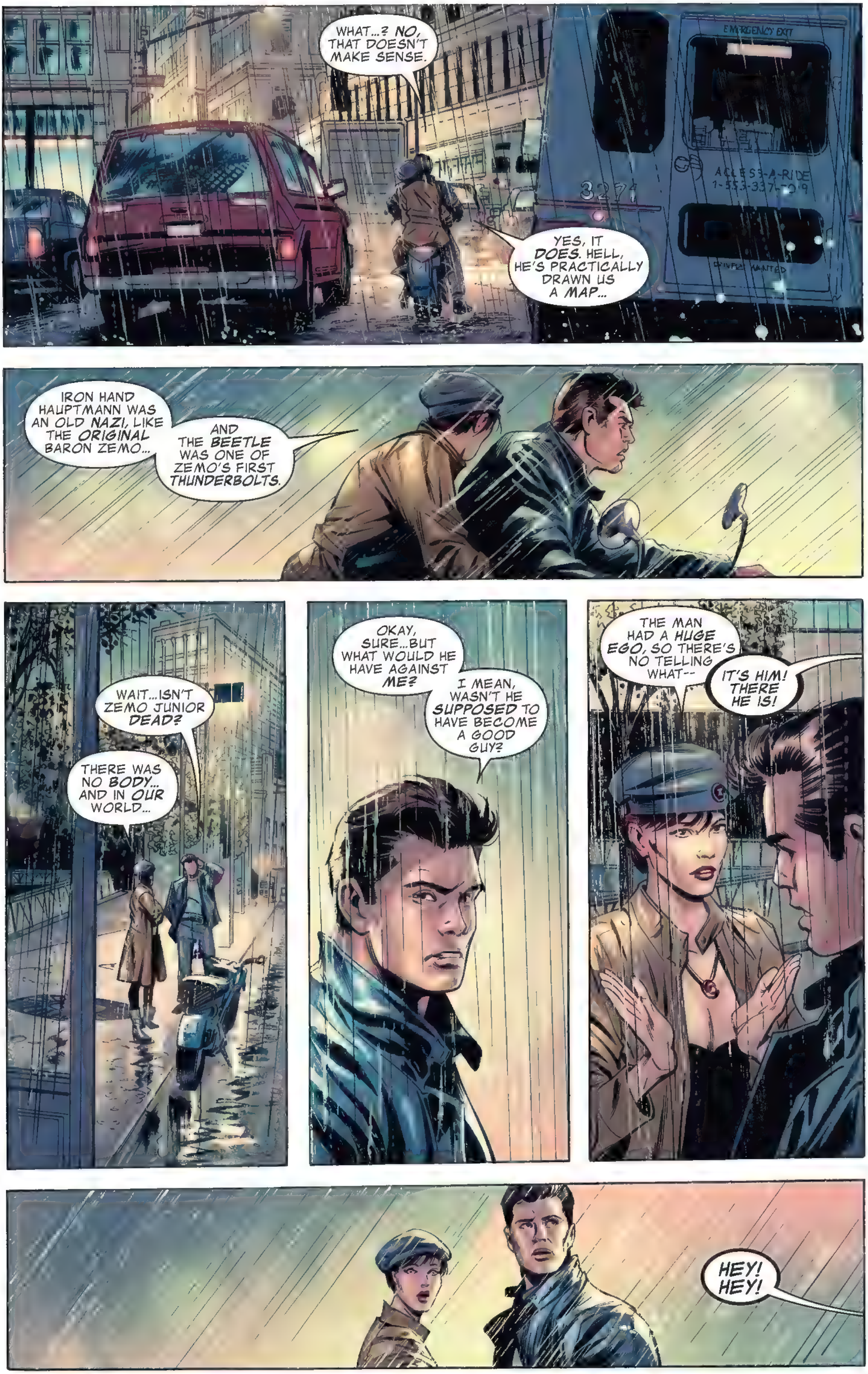

WHO TOLD YOU THAT?
WHAT? IS IT SUPPOSED TO BE SOME SECRET?
THE GUY'S FACE IS ALL OVER THE INTERNET.
THERE'S A FREAKIN' MEMORIAL PAGE FOR CAP'S OLD PAL, THE FALLEN HERO...
ONLY HE DOESN'T LOOK SO DEAD TO ME.
SO YOU RECOGNIZED HIM IN THE BAR AND DECIDED TO DRUG HIM?
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?
WHAT? NO...NO...
LIKE I'M GONNA RECOGNIZE SOME GUY FROM WORLD WAR TWO?
BEETLE
I'M JUST SAYING, ONCE YOU KNOW...
...IT'S KINDA OBVIOUS... Y'KNOW?

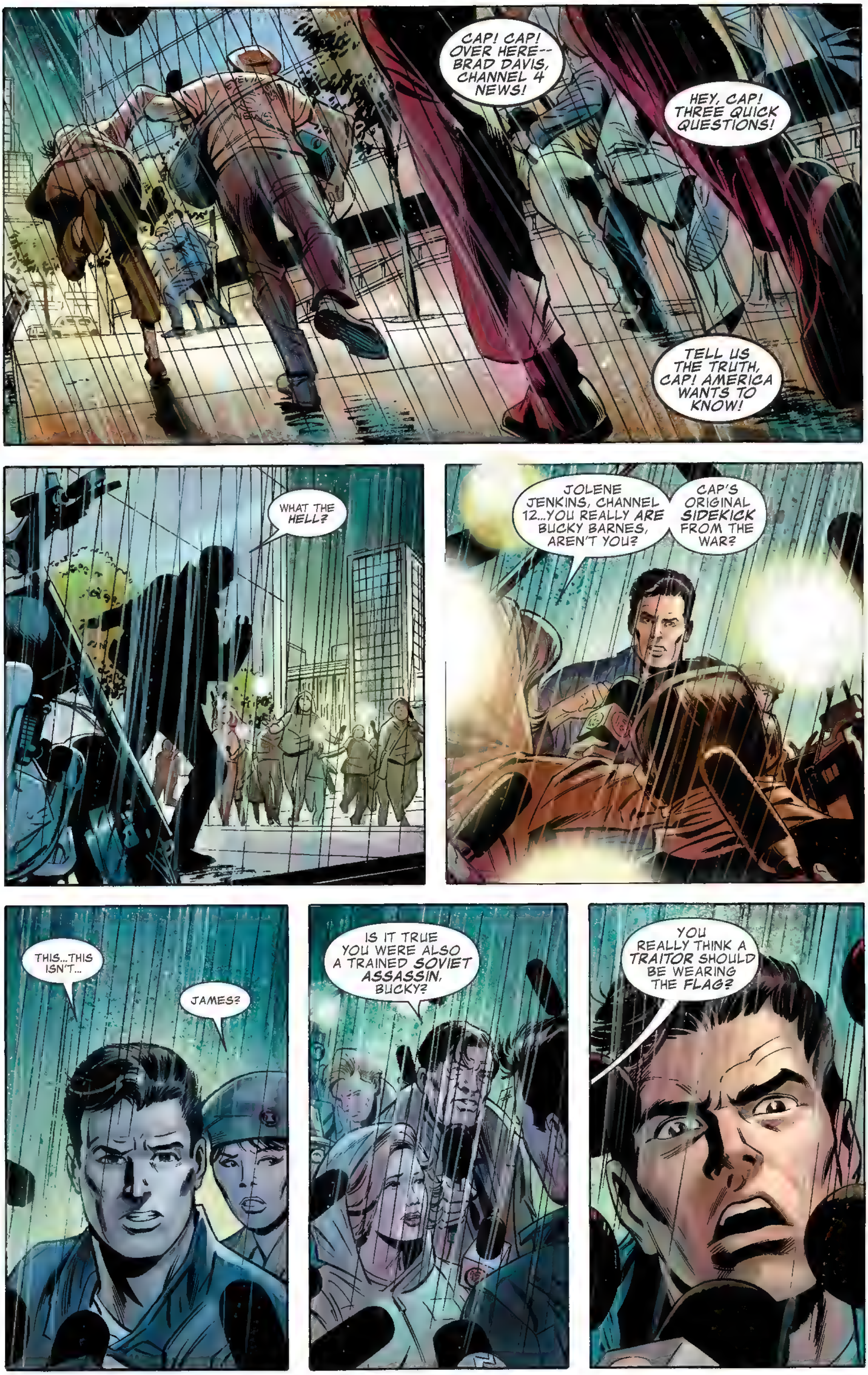

Elsewhere
YES...YES... UNDERSTOOD, FIXER.
I EXPECTED NO LESS.
HOLD ON... I HAVE TO RESCRAMBLE THIS SIGNAL...
OKAY... WE'RE GOOD FOR ANOTHER MINUTE.
SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
NOTHING.
THE GIRL IS DISPOSABLE... AND SHE DOESN'T KNOW ENOUGH TO HURT US.
LET HER TELL HIM WHATEVER HE WANTS.
I SENT THE MESSAGE AN HOUR AGO, SO IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT SHE SAYS...
HE'LL KNOW WHO HE'S FACING SOON ENOUGH.

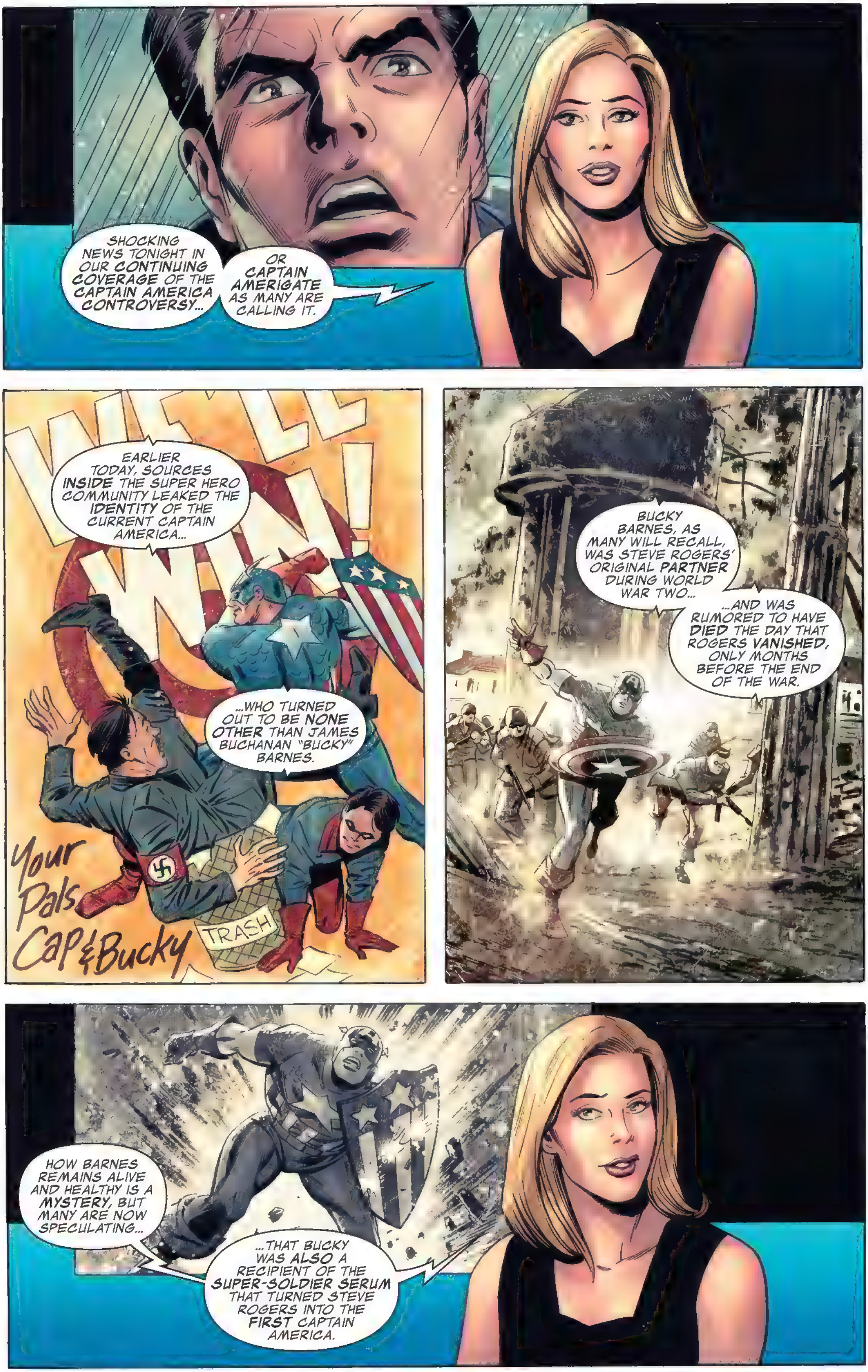

YOU'RE GOING TO SPEND THE NEXT FIFTEEN YEARS IN A CELL...
YOU GET THAT, RIGHT?
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY.
WE'RE YOUR ONLY WAY OUT OF HERE...SO YES, THAT'S WHAT WE SAY.
TELL US WHO YOU'RE WORKING FOR, AND THIS GETS KNOCKED DOWN...
...A FEW YEARS AND YOU CAN HAVE A LIFE AGAIN.
THIS IS SO FUNNY... YOU OFFERING ME MY LIFE BACK...
YOU DON'T EVEN GET IT.
HE HASN'T EVEN BEGUN SCREWING YOUR LIFE UP, SIDEKICK.
THIS IS NOTHING!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

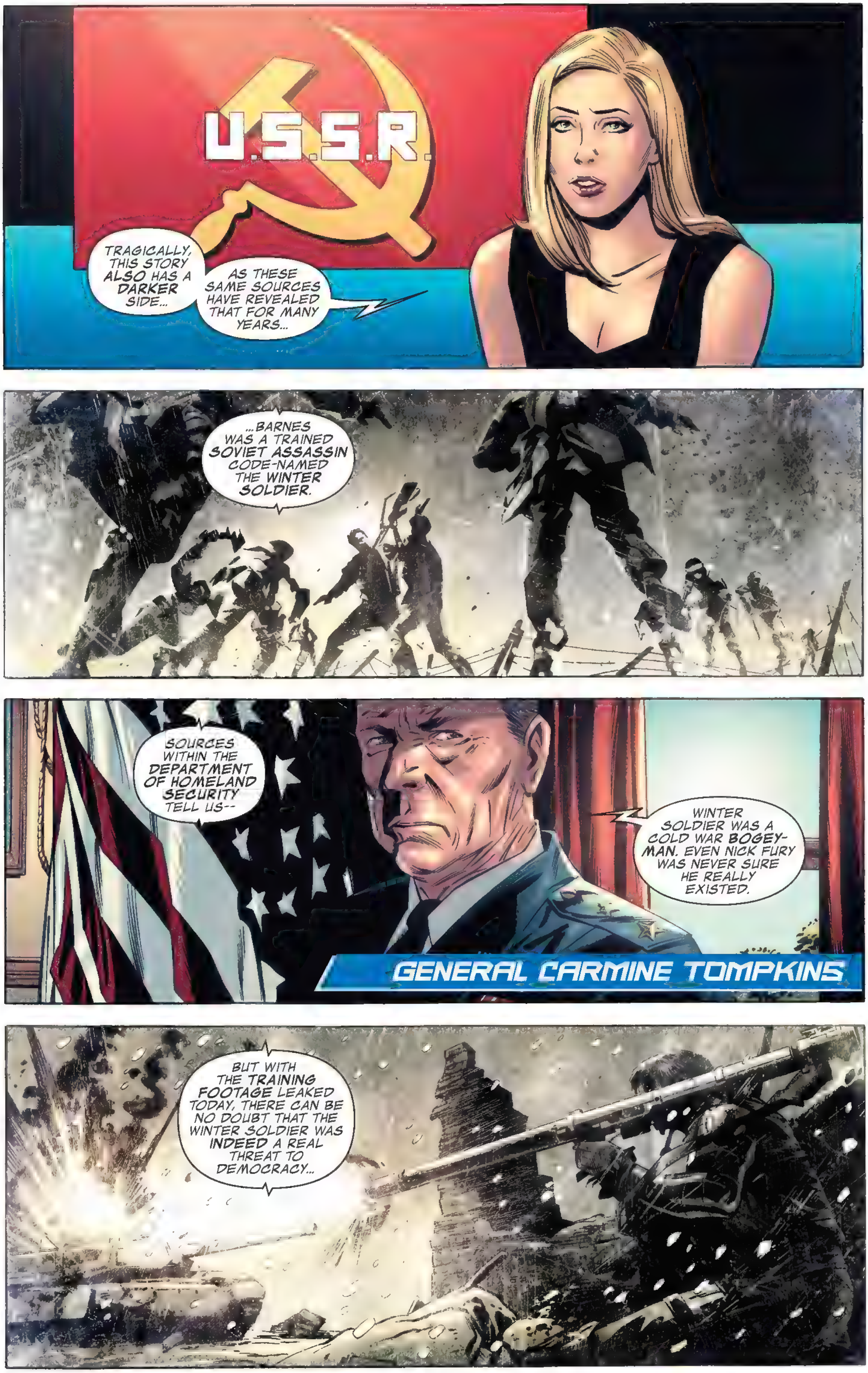

HA HA HA HA HA HA!
YOU DISGUSTING LITTLE--
NAT... LEAVE IT.
THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME...
...LET HER ROT.
...HEH HEH HEH...
RULES
I COULD'VE RIPPED HER FACE OFF, I SWEAR.
I KNOW.
BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER.
DOESN'T MATTER? HOW DOESN'T IT MATTER?
WE KNOW WHAT WE NEED TO...
SOMEONE KNOWS WHO I AM AND THEY'RE COMING AFTER ME...
NOT THE UNIFORM, NOT CAPTAIN AMERICA... ME.

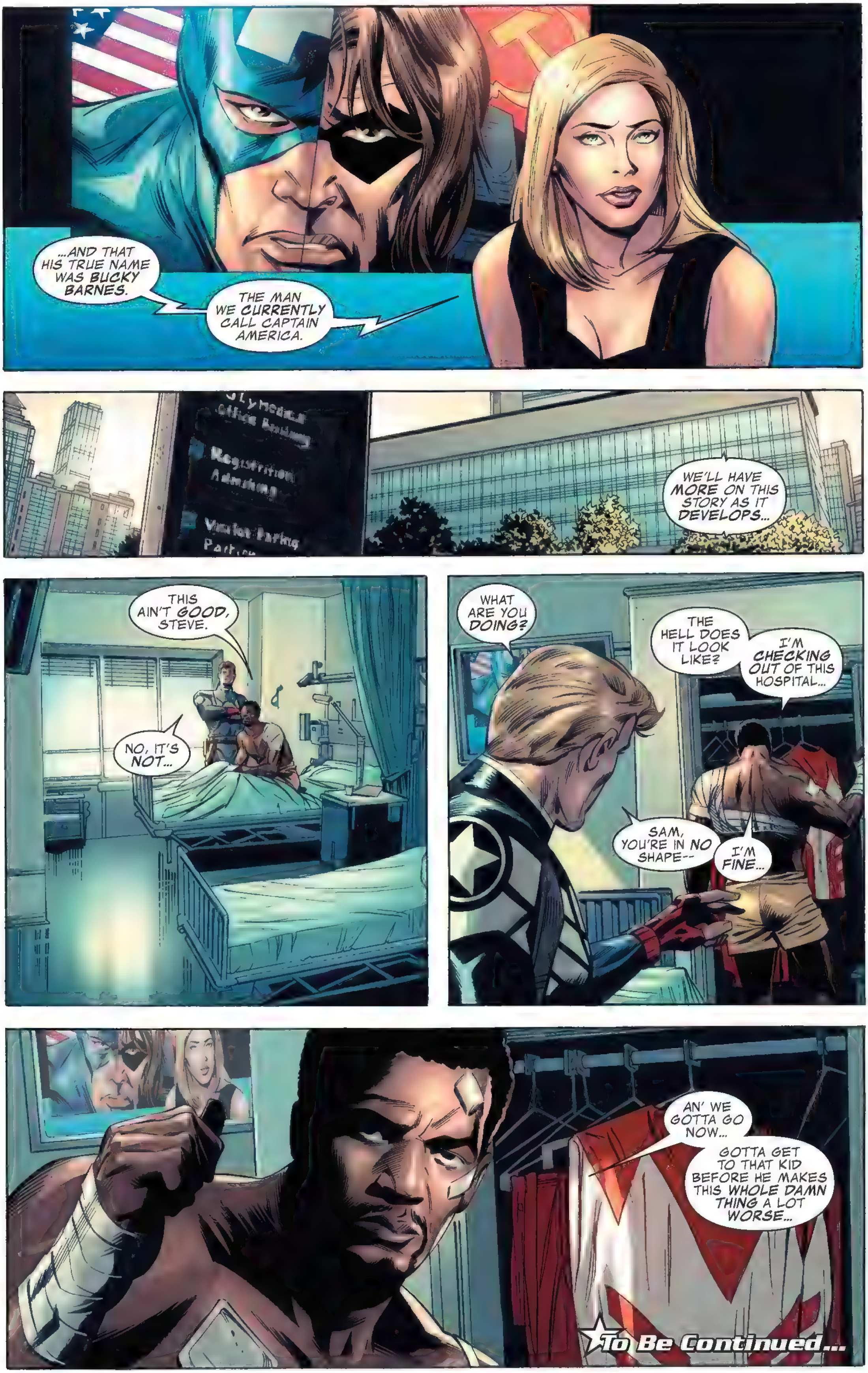

SO IT'S *NOT* JUST SOMEONE WHO'S SEEN YOU *UNMASKED* AND THINKS YOU'RE JUST SOME *GUY*...
RIKERS ISLAND PRISON
IT'S SOMEONE WHO KNOWS YOU'RE ACTUALLY *BUCKY BARNES*, TOO.
HOW BIG OF A LIST CAN *THAT* BE?
NOT BIG... BUT *NORMAN OSBORN* IS ON IT, REMEMBER?
OSBORN WASN'T THE TYPE TO BE *SHARING* INTEL TOO MUCH.
KNOWLEDGE IS *POWER* TO THE MEN IN CHARGE...
WELL, THE RED SKULL KNEW...AND DR. FAUSTUS...
AND THE *CRAZY* CAPTAIN AMERICA...
BOY...THIS IS *NOT* A PLEASANT CONVERSATION...
NO, IT'S--
OH...OH *GOD*.
WHAT?
ZEMO.


WHAT...? NO, THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
EMERGENCY EXIT
ACCESS-A-RIDE
YES, IT DOES. HELL, HE'S PRACTICALLY DRAWN US A MAP...
IRON HAND HAUPTMANN WAS AN OLD NAZI, LIKE THE ORIGINAL BARON ZEMO...
AND THE BEETLE WAS ONE OF ZEMO'S FIRST THUNDERBOLTS.
WAIT...ISN'T ZEMO JUNIOR DEAD?
THERE WAS NO BODY... AND IN OUR WORLD...
OKAY, SURE...BUT WHAT WOULD HE HAVE AGAINST ME?
I MEAN, WASN'T HE SUPPOSED TO HAVE BECOME A GOOD GUY?
THE MAN HAD A HUGE EGO, SO THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT--
IT'S HIM! THERE HE IS!
HEY! HEY!


CAP! CAP! OVER HERE--BRAD DAVIS, CHANNEL 4 NEWS!
HEY, CAP! THREE QUICK QUESTIONS!
TELL US THE TRUTH, CAP! AMERICA WANTS TO KNOW!
WHAT THE HELL?
JOLENE JENKINS, CHANNEL 12...YOU REALLY ARE BUCKY BARNES, AREN'T YOU?
CAP'S ORIGINAL SIDEKICK FROM THE WAR?
THIS...THIS ISN'T...
JAMES?
IS IT TRUE YOU WERE ALSO A TRAINED SOVIET ASSASSIN, BUCKY?
YOU REALLY THINK A TRAITOR SHOULD BE WEARING THE FLAG?


SHOCKING NEWS TONIGHT IN OUR CONTINUING COVERAGE OF THE CAPTAIN AMERICA CONTROVERSY...
OR CAPTAIN AMERIGATE AS MANY ARE CALLING IT.
WE'LL WIN!
EARLIER TODAY, SOURCES INSIDE THE SUPER HERO COMMUNITY LEAKED THE IDENTITY OF THE CURRENT CAPTAIN AMERICA...
...WHO TURNED OUT TO BE NONE OTHER THAN JAMES BUCHANAN "BUCKY" BARNES.
Your Pals Cap & Bucky
TRASH
BUCKY BARNES, AS MANY WILL RECALL, WAS STEVE ROGERS' ORIGINAL PARTNER DURING WORLD WAR TWO...
...AND WAS RUMORED TO HAVE DIED THE DAY THAT ROGERS VANISHED, ONLY MONTHS BEFORE THE END OF THE WAR.
HOW BARNES REMAINS ALIVE AND HEALTHY IS A MYSTERY, BUT MANY ARE NOW SPECULATING...
...THAT BUCKY WAS ALSO A RECIPIENT OF THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM THAT TURNED STEVE ROGERS INTO THE FIRST CAPTAIN AMERICA.


U.S.S.R.
TRAGICALLY, THIS STORY ALSO HAS A DARKER SIDE...
AS THESE SAME SOURCES HAVE REVEALED THAT FOR MANY YEARS...
...BARNES WAS A TRAINED SOVIET ASSASSIN CODE-NAMED THE WINTER SOLDIER.
SOURCES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TELL US--
WINTER SOLDIER WAS A COLD WAR BOGEYMAN. EVEN NICK FURY WAS NEVER SURE HE REALLY EXISTED.
GENERAL CARMINE TOMPKINS
BUT WITH THE TRAINING FOOTAGE LEAKED TODAY, THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT THE WINTER SOLDIER WAS INDEED A REAL THREAT TO DEMOCRACY...


...AND THAT HIS TRUE NAME WAS BUCKY BARNES.
THE MAN WE CURRENTLY CALL CAPTAIN AMERICA.
Office Building
Registration
Admitting
Visitor Parking
WE'LL HAVE MORE ON THIS STORY AS IT DEVELOPS...
THIS AIN'T GOOD, STEVE.
NO, IT'S NOT...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THE HELL DOES IT LOOK LIKE?
I'M CHECKING OUT OF THIS HOSPITAL...
SAM, YOU'RE IN NO SHAPE--
I'M FINE...
AN' WE GOTTA GO NOW...
GOTTA GET TO THAT KID BEFORE HE MAKES THIS WHOLE DAMN THING A LOT WORSE...
To Be Continued...

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CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But there are some who are not happy that Bucky, thought killed towards the end of the war, is still alive. The son of the original Baron Zemo, Baron Helmut Zemo, recently discovered that his father failed to kill Bucky in World War II. Determined to destroy Bucky's life, Zemo attacked Bucky's partner, the Falcon, and had Bucky drugged, causing him to hallucinate and attack several police officers.

Attempting to clear his name, Bucky and Natasha Romanova, the Black Widow, tracked down the bartender they believe drugged him, who revealed herself to be the newest incarnation of the villain called the Beetle. After subduing her, Bucky and Nat are shocked to learn that the Beetle knows Bucky's identity, and after Zemo virally spreads it and Bucky's dark tenure as the Soviet Winter Soldier across the Web, the entire world knows, too.

NO ESCAPE part 4

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Captain America created by Joe Simon and Jack Kirby

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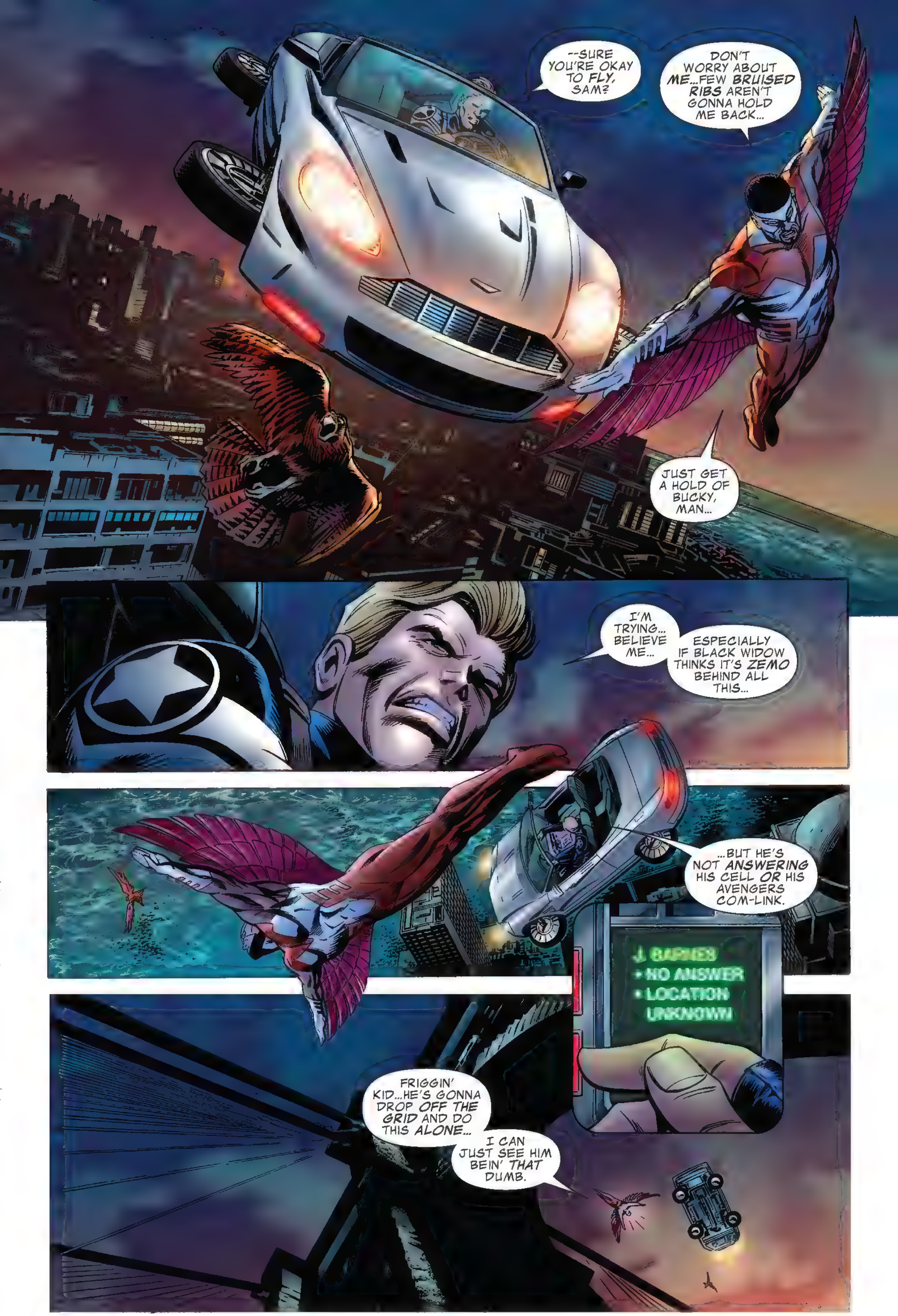
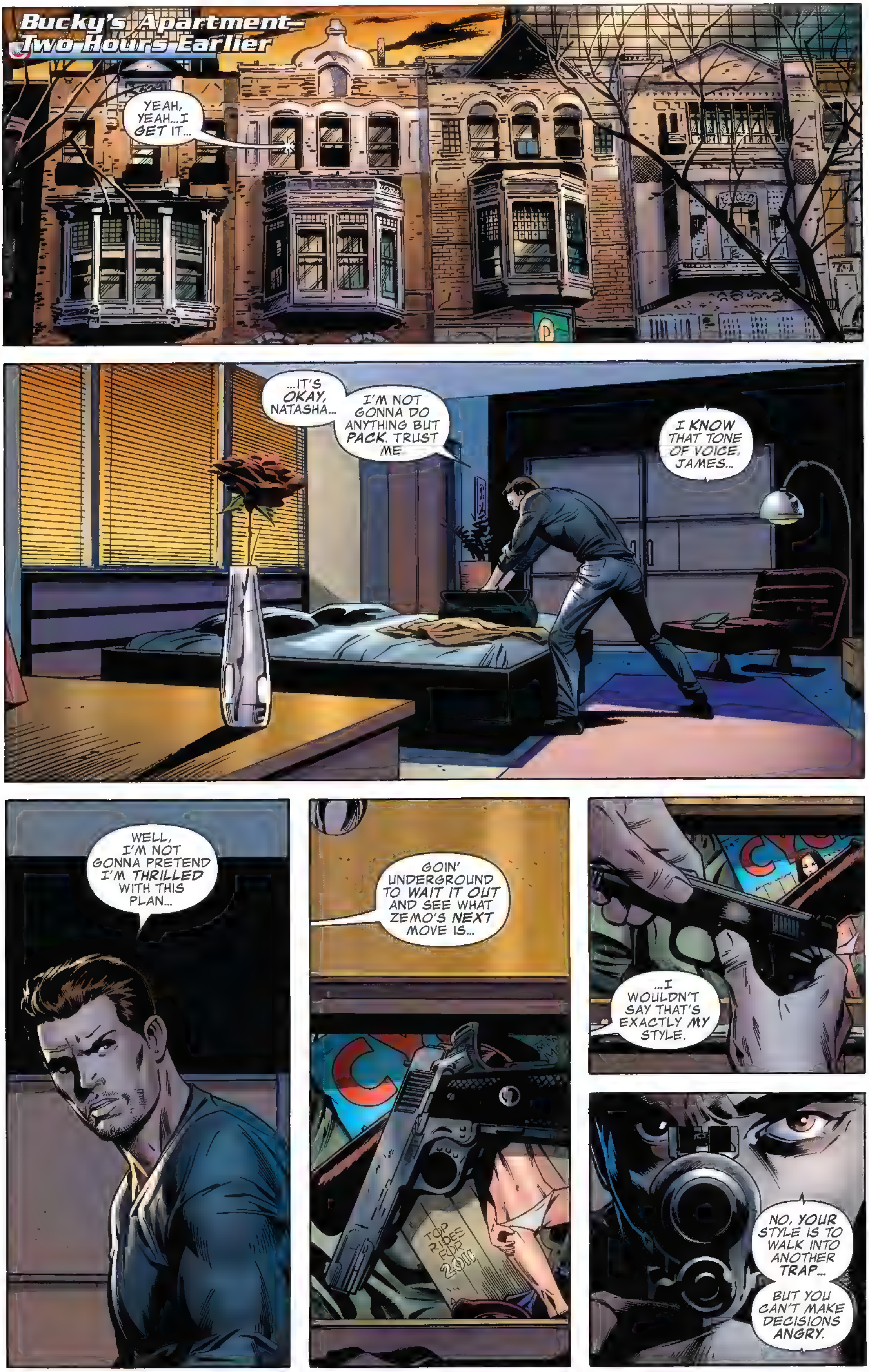
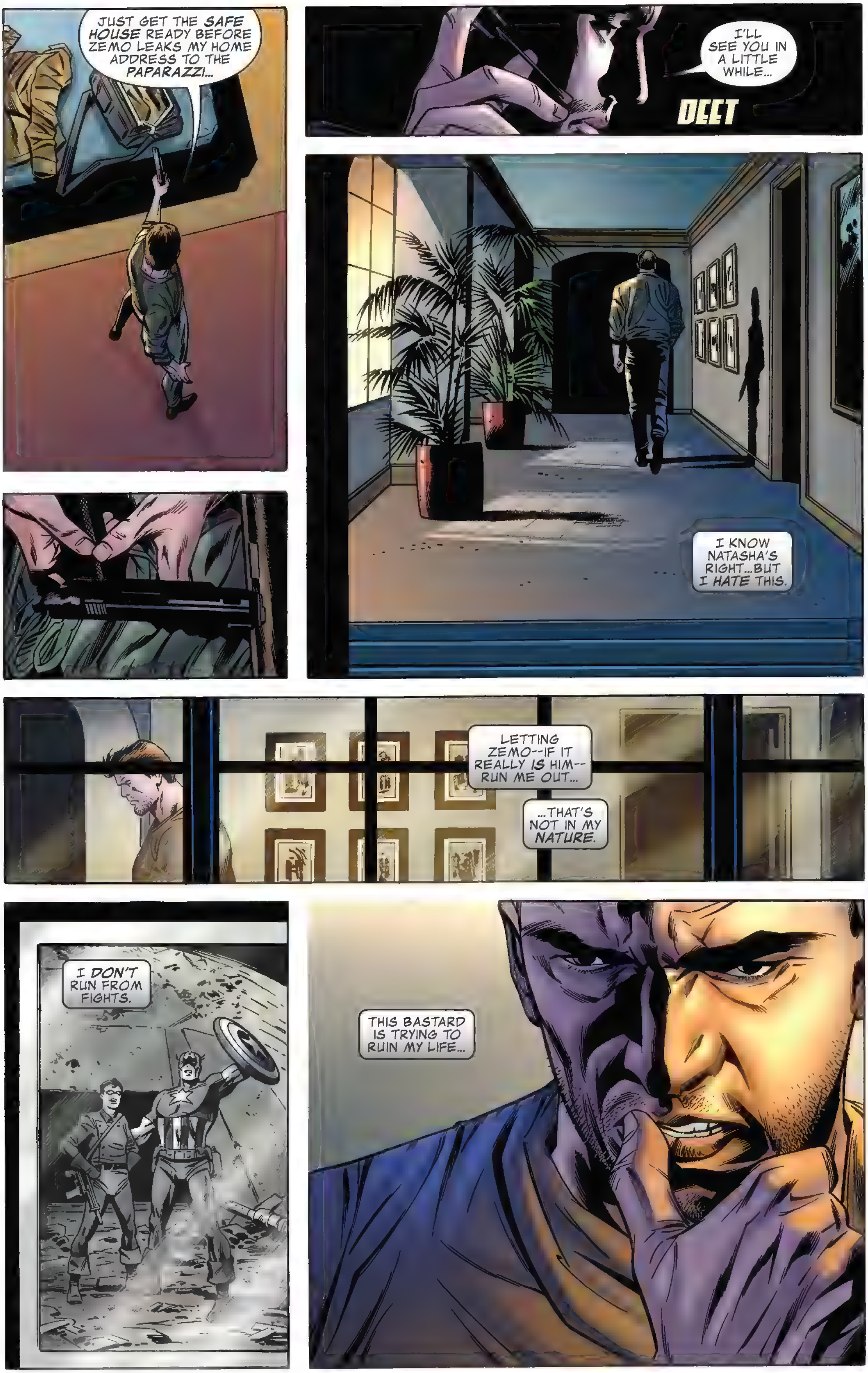
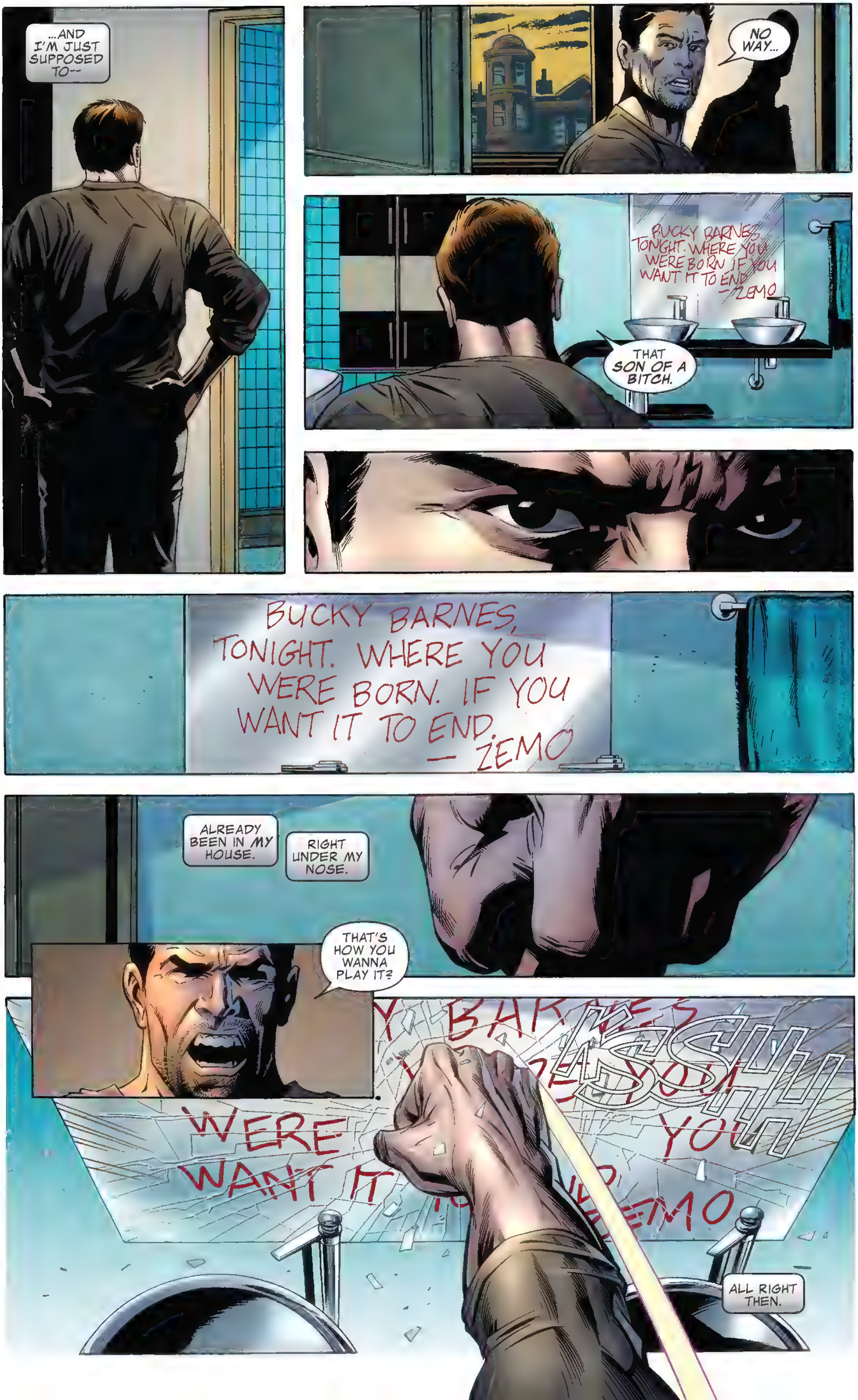
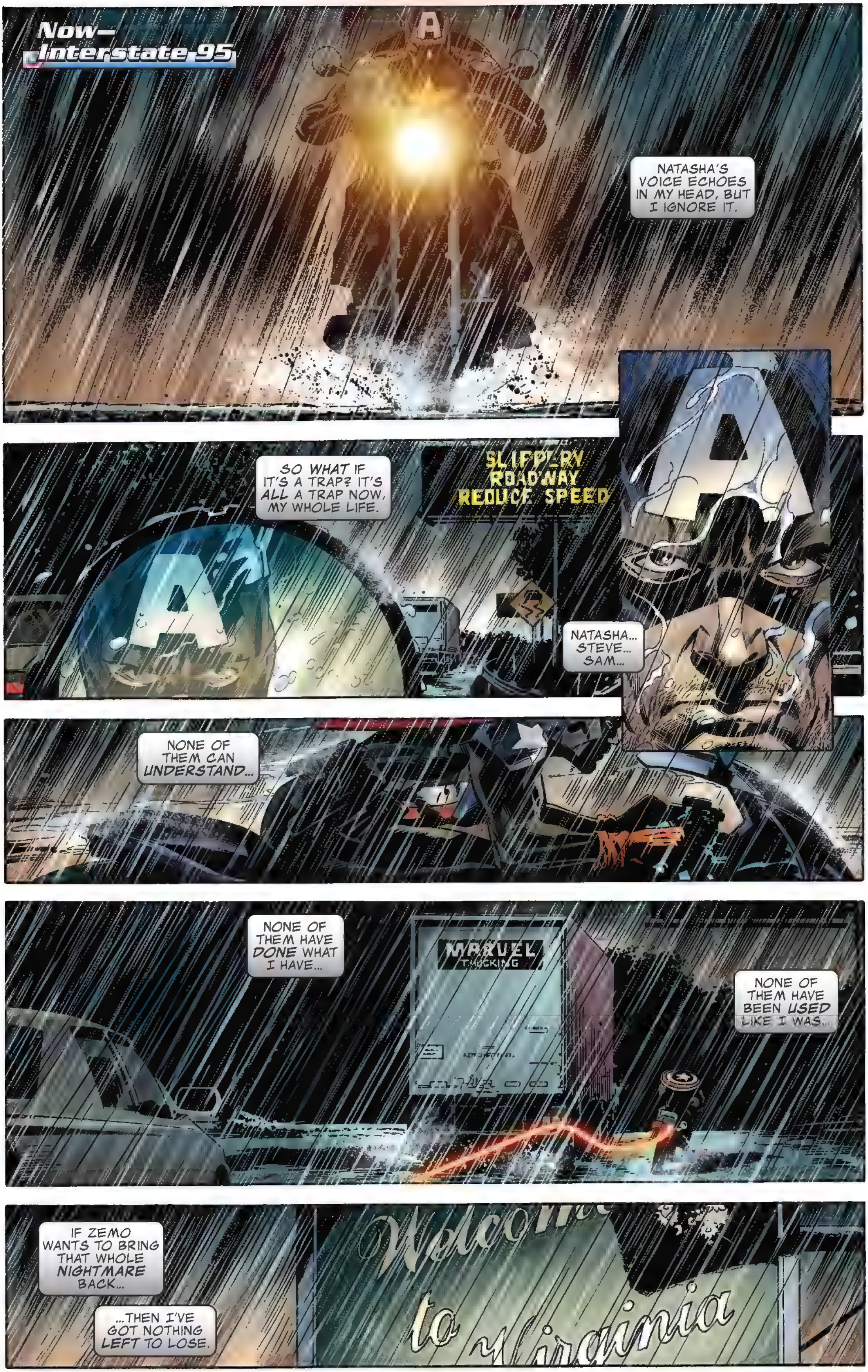
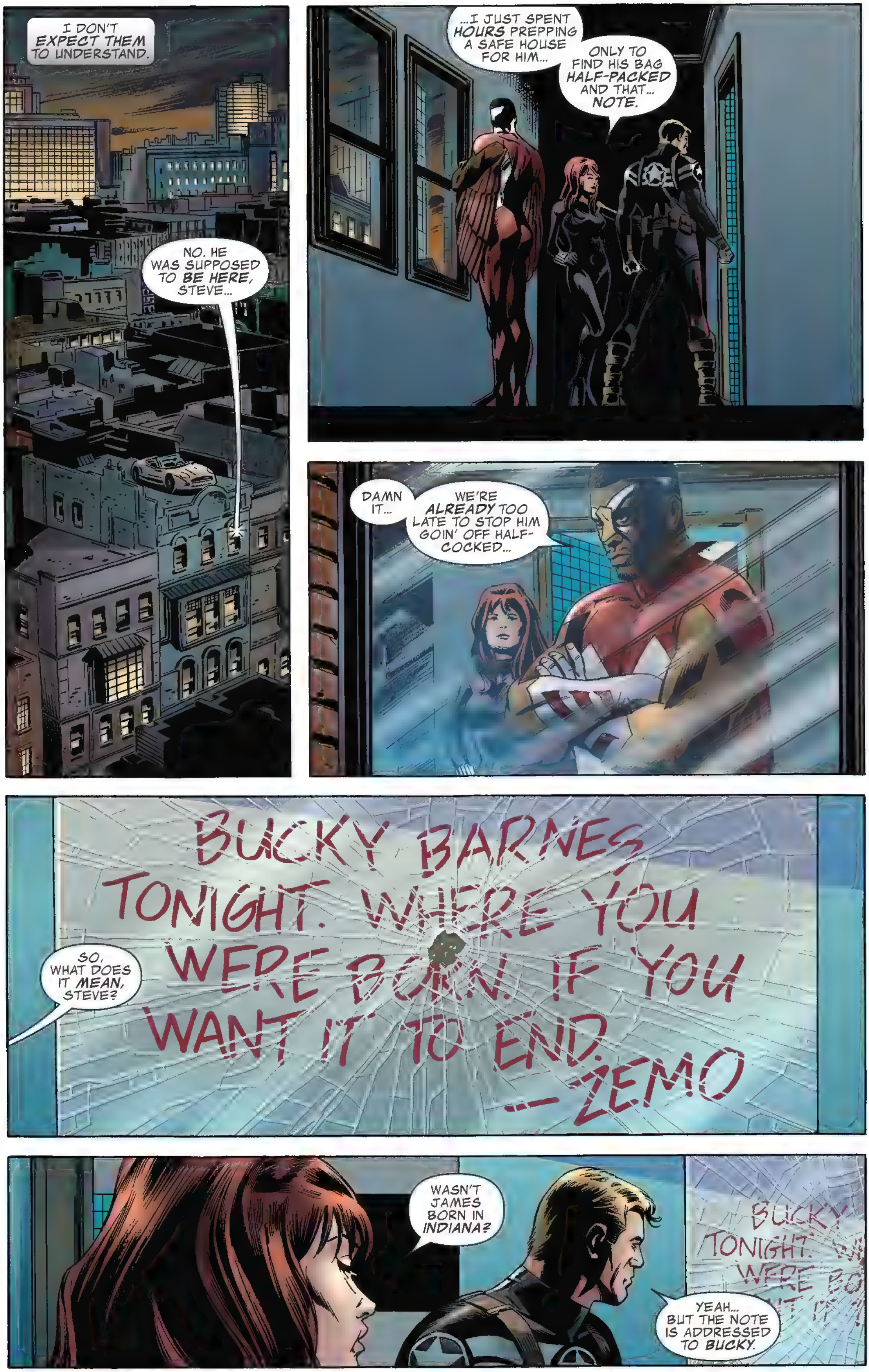

--SURE YOU'RE OKAY TO *FLY*, SAM?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT *ME*...FEW *BRUISED RIBS* AREN'T GONNA HOLD ME BACK...
JUST GET A HOLD OF BUCKY, MAN...
I'M TRYING... BELIEVE ME...
ESPECIALLY IF BLACK WIDOW THINKS IT'S *ZEMO* BEHIND ALL THIS...
...BUT HE'S NOT *ANSWERING* HIS CELL *OR* HIS AVENGERS COM-LINK.
J. BARNES
• NO ANSWER
• LOCATION UNKNOWN
FRIGGIN' KID...HE'S GONNA DROP *OFF THE GRID* AND DO THIS *ALONE*...
I CAN JUST SEE HIM BEIN' *THAT* DUMB.

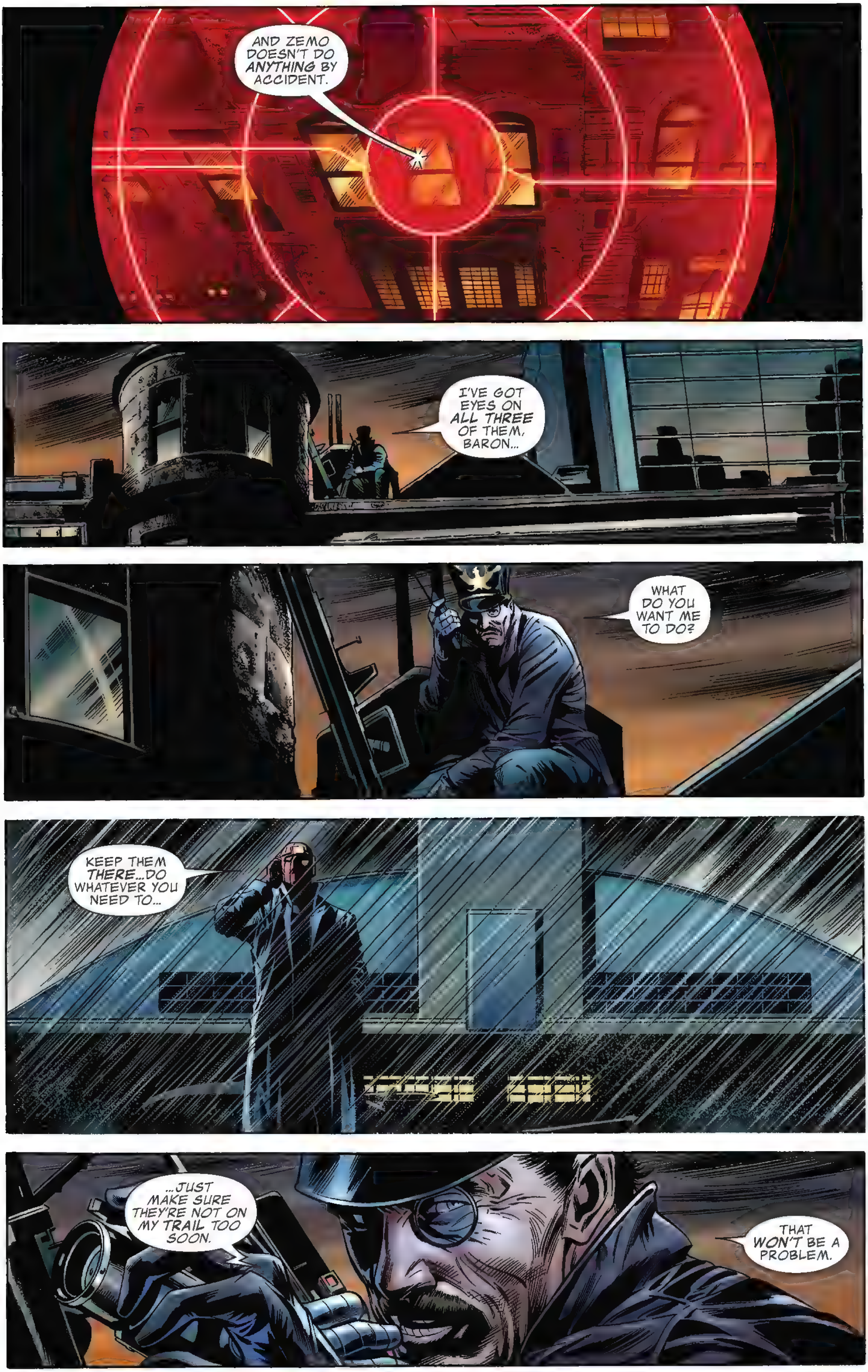

Bucky's Apartment—Two Hours Earlier
YEAH, YEAH...I GET IT...
...IT'S OKAY, NATASHA...
I'M NOT GONNA DO ANYTHING BUT PACK. TRUST ME.
I KNOW THAT TONE OF VOICE, JAMES...
WELL, I'M NOT GONNA PRETEND I'M THRILLED WITH THIS PLAN...
GOIN' UNDERGROUND TO WAIT IT OUT AND SEE WHAT ZEMO'S NEXT MOVE IS...
TOP RIDES FOR 2010
...I WOULDN'T SAY THAT'S EXACTLY MY STYLE.
NO, YOUR STYLE IS TO WALK INTO ANOTHER TRAP...
BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE DECISIONS ANGRY.

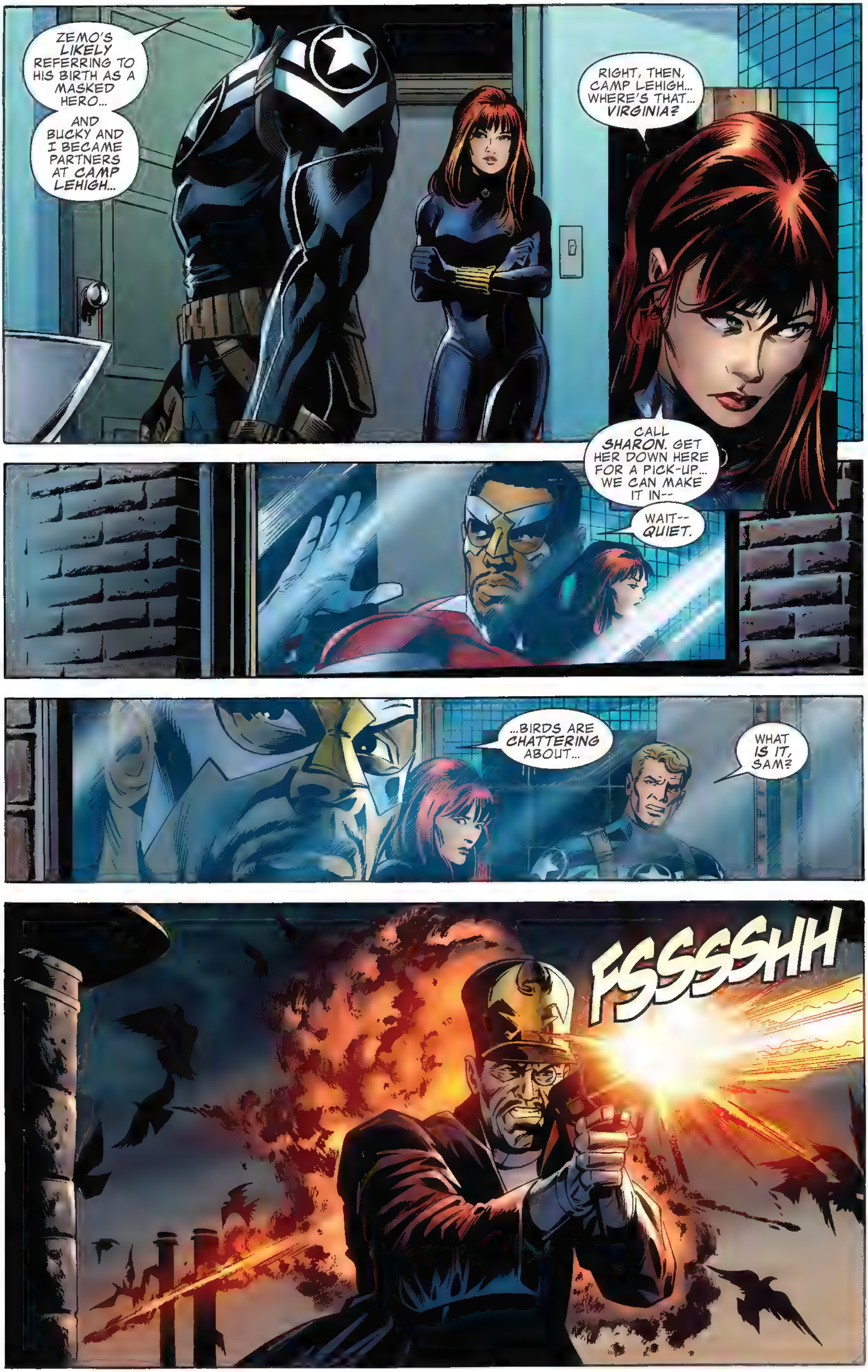

JUST GET THE *SAFE HOUSE* READY BEFORE ZEMO LEAKS MY HOME ADDRESS TO THE *PAPARAZZI*...
I'LL SEE YOU IN A LITTLE WHILE...
DEET
I KNOW NATASHA'S RIGHT...BUT I *HATE* THIS.
LETTING ZEMO--IF IT REALLY *IS* HIM--RUN ME OUT...
...THAT'S NOT IN MY *NATURE*.
I *DON'T* RUN FROM FIGHTS.
THIS BASTARD IS TRYING TO RUIN MY LIFE...

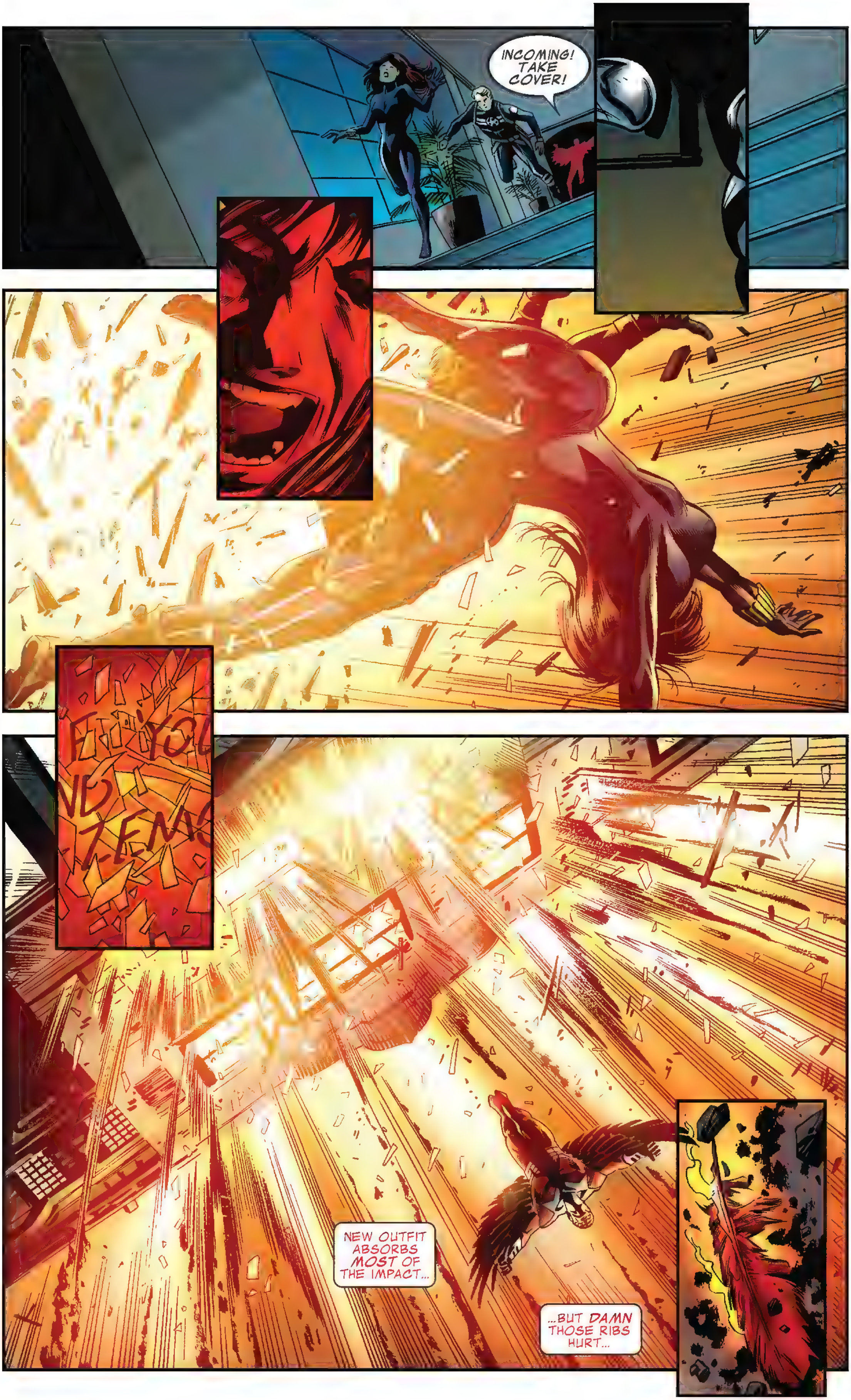

...AND I'M JUST SUPPOSED TO--
NO WAY...
BUCKY BARNES, TONIGHT. WHERE YOU WERE BORN. IF YOU WANT IT TO END. —ZEMO
THAT SON OF A BITCH.
BUCKY BARNES, TONIGHT. WHERE YOU WERE BORN. IF YOU WANT IT TO END. —ZEMO
ALREADY BEEN IN MY HOUSE.
RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE.
THAT'S HOW YOU WANNA PLAY IT?
KSSHH
ALL RIGHT THEN.

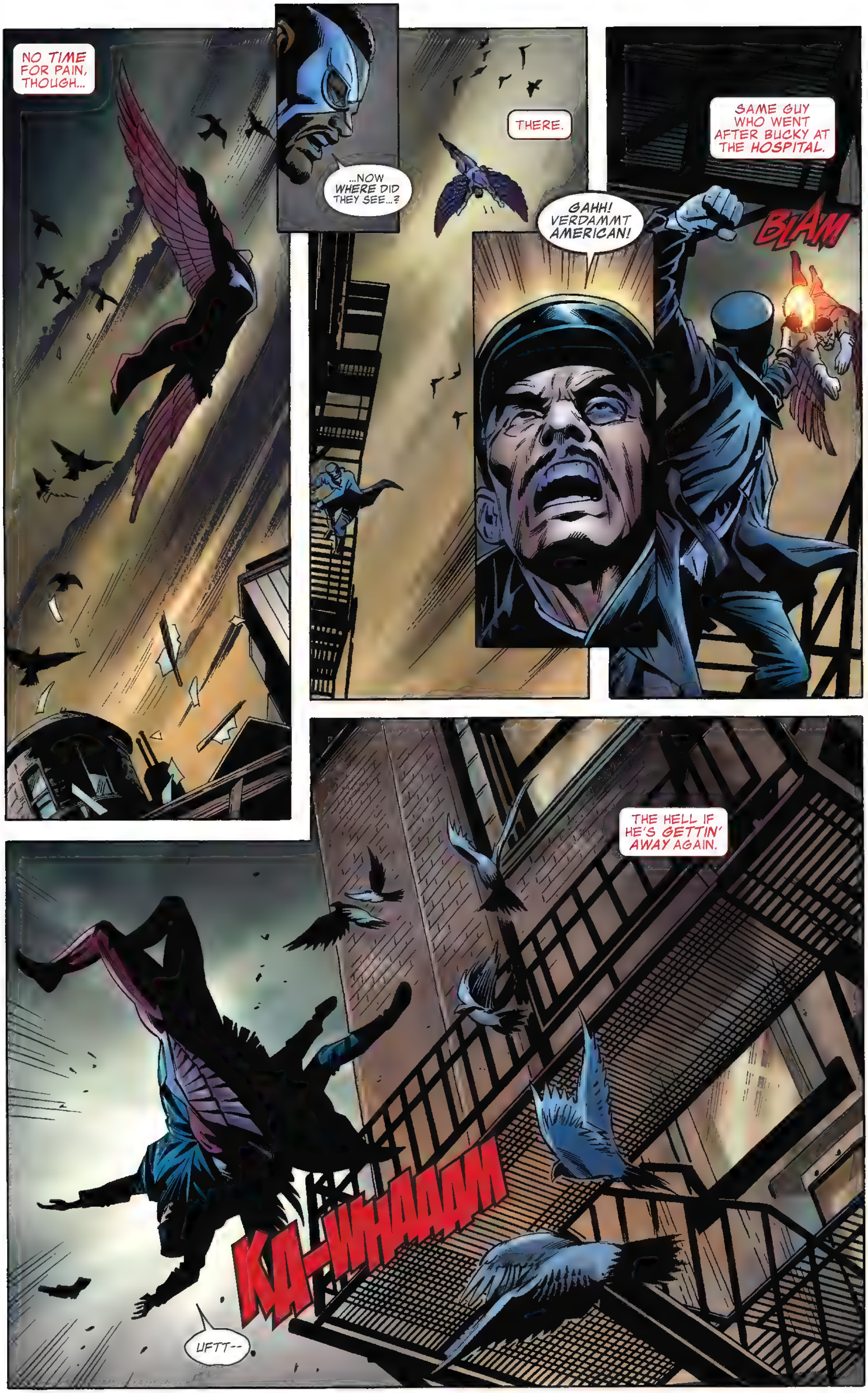

Now—
Interstate 95
NATASHA'S VOICE ECHOES IN MY HEAD, BUT I IGNORE IT.
SO WHAT IF IT'S A TRAP? IT'S ALL A TRAP NOW, MY WHOLE LIFE.
SLIPPERY ROADWAY REDUCE SPEED
NATASHA... STEVE... SAM...
NONE OF THEM CAN UNDERSTAND...
NONE OF THEM HAVE DONE WHAT I HAVE...
MARVEL TRUCKING
NONE OF THEM HAVE BEEN USED LIKE I WAS...
IF ZEMO WANTS TO BRING THAT WHOLE NIGHTMARE BACK...
...THEN I'VE GOT NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE.
Welcome to Virginia

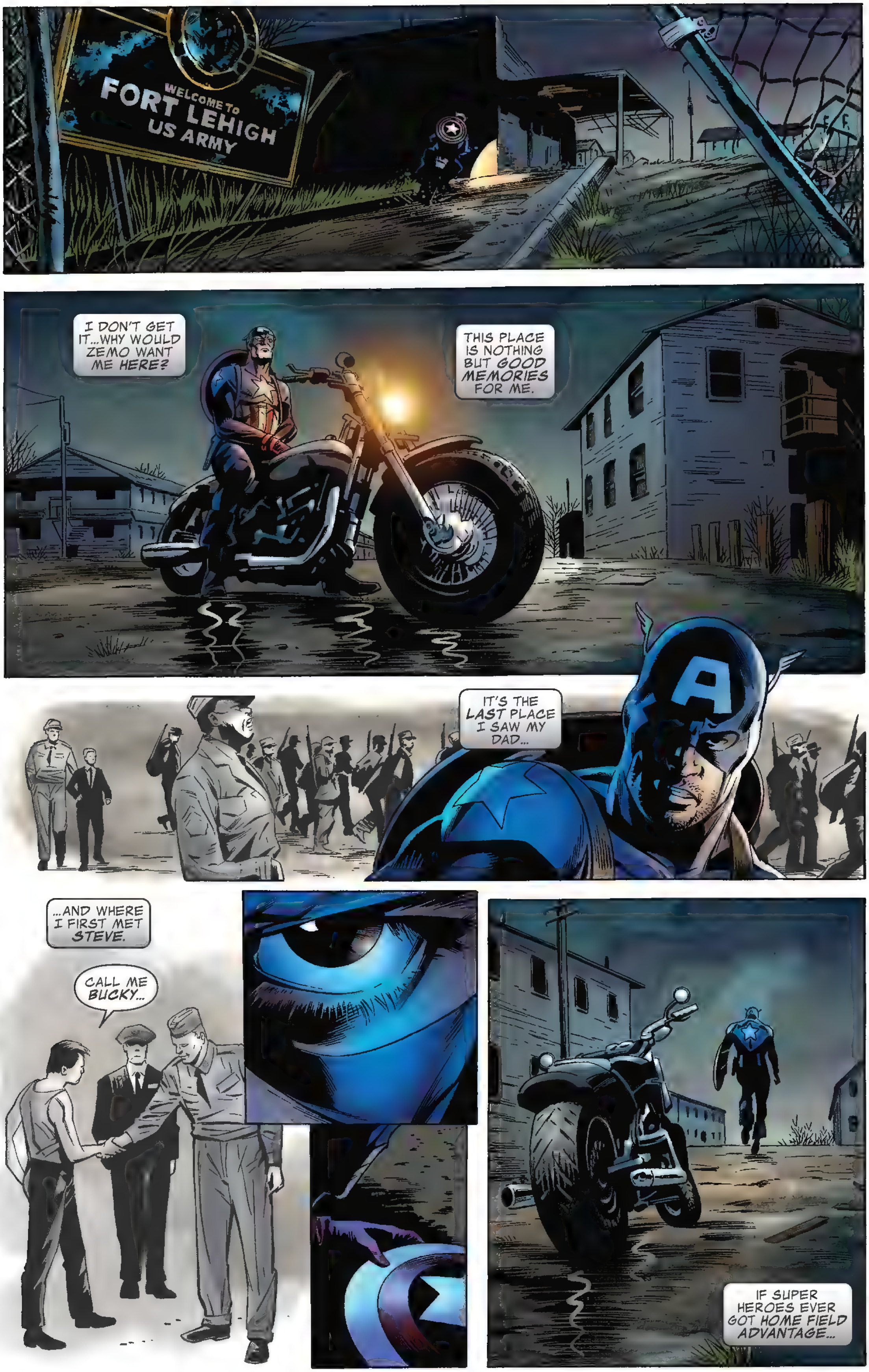

I DON'T *EXPECT THEM* TO UNDERSTAND.
NO. HE WAS SUPPOSED TO *BE HERE,* STEVE...
...I JUST SPENT *HOURS* PREPPING A SAFE HOUSE FOR HIM...
ONLY TO FIND HIS BAG *HALF-PACKED* AND THAT... *NOTE.*
DAMN IT...
WE'RE *ALREADY* TOO LATE TO STOP HIM GOIN' OFF HALF-COCKED...
BUCKY BARNES
TONIGHT. WHERE YOU
WERE BORN. IF YOU
WANT IT TO END.
--ZEMO
SO, WHAT DOES IT *MEAN,* STEVE?
WASN'T JAMES BORN IN *INDIANA?*
YEAH... BUT THE NOTE IS ADDRESSED TO *BUCKY.*

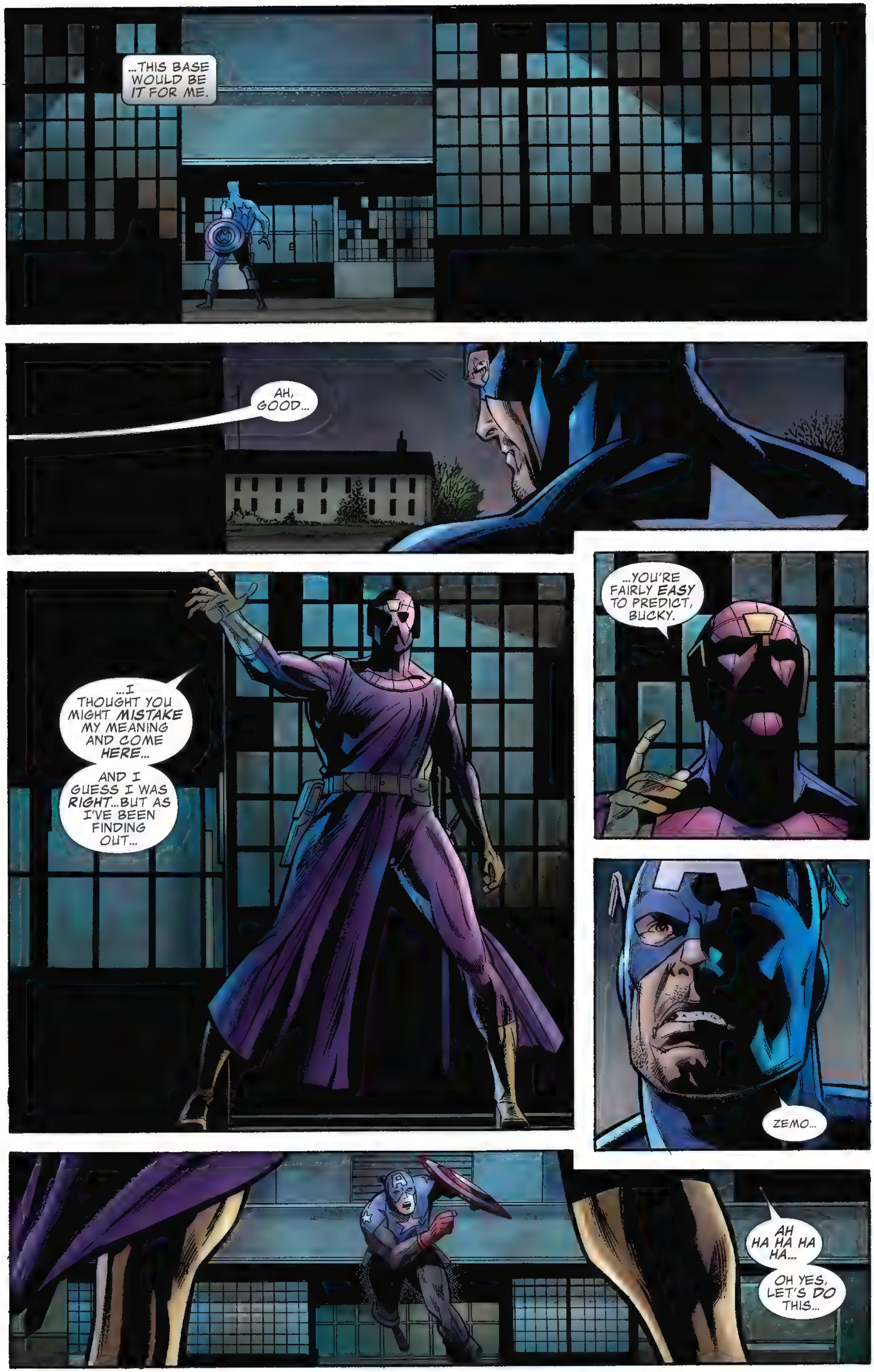

AND ZEMO DOESN'T DO ANYTHING BY ACCIDENT.
I'VE GOT EYES ON ALL THREE OF THEM, BARON...
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
KEEP THEM THERE...DO WHATEVER YOU NEED TO...
...JUST MAKE SURE THEY'RE NOT ON MY TRAIL TOO SOON.
THAT WON'T BE A PROBLEM.

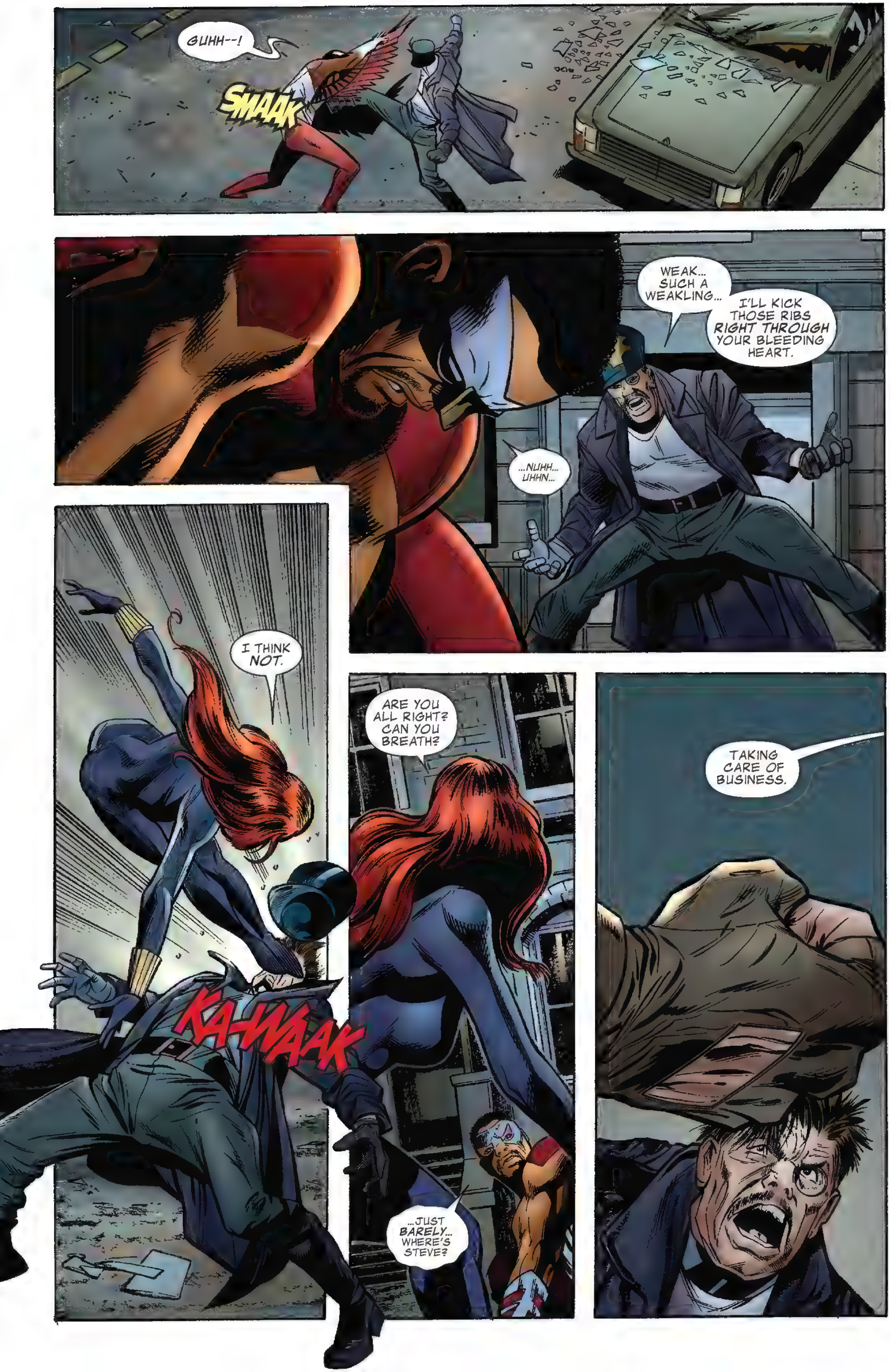

ZEMO'S *LIKELY* REFERRING TO HIS BIRTH AS A MASKED HERO...
AND BUCKY AND I BECAME PARTNERS AT *CAMP LEHIGH*...
RIGHT, THEN, CAMP LEHIGH... WHERE'S THAT... *VIRGINIA?*
CALL *SHARON*. GET HER DOWN HERE FOR A PICK-UP... WE CAN MAKE IT IN--
WAIT-- *QUIET.*
...BIRDS ARE *CHATTERING* ABOUT...
WHAT *IS IT*, SAM?
FSSSSHH

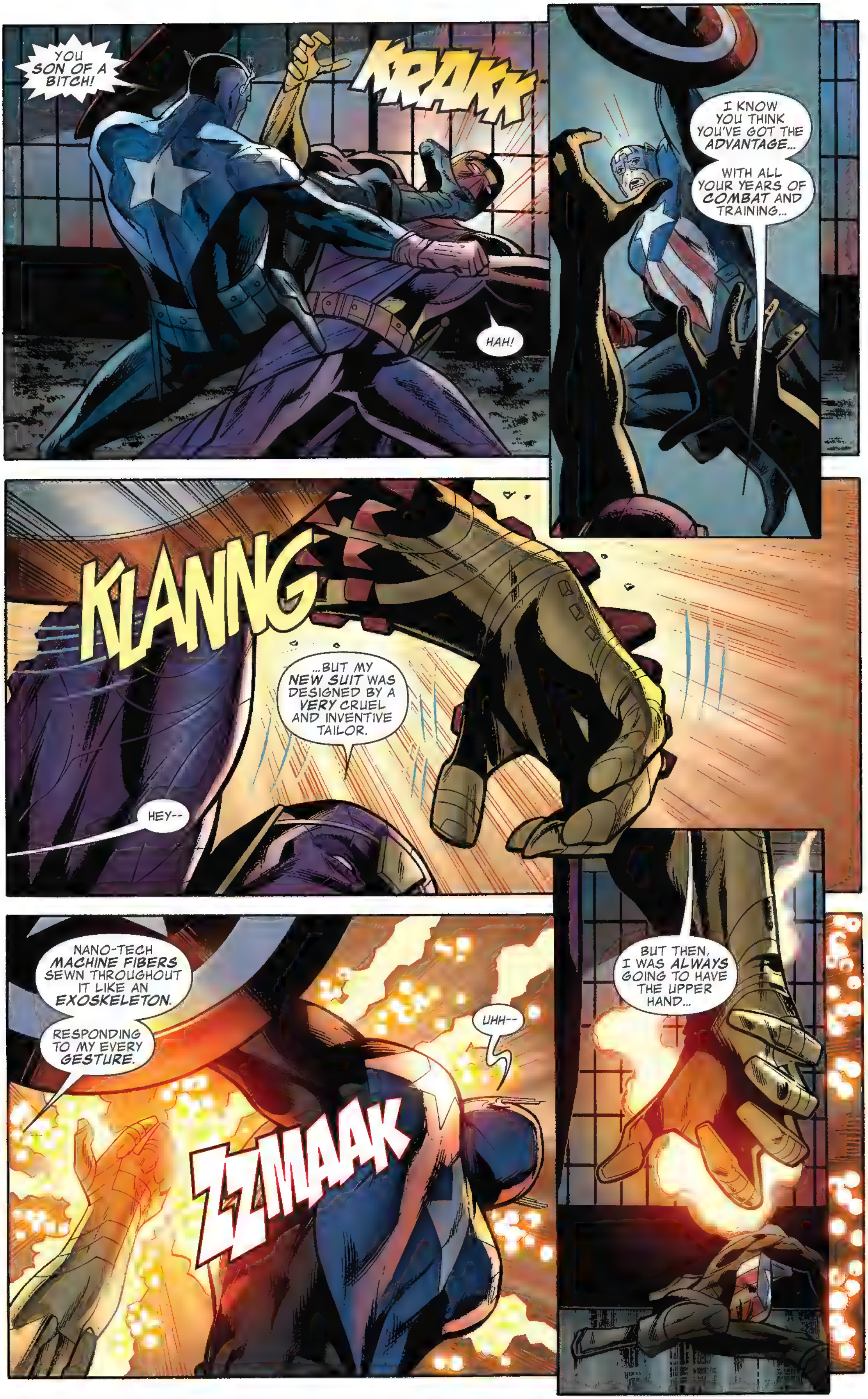

INCOMING! TAKE COVER!
NEW OUTFIT ABSORBS *MOST* OF THE IMPACT...
...BUT *DAMN* THOSE RIBS HURT...

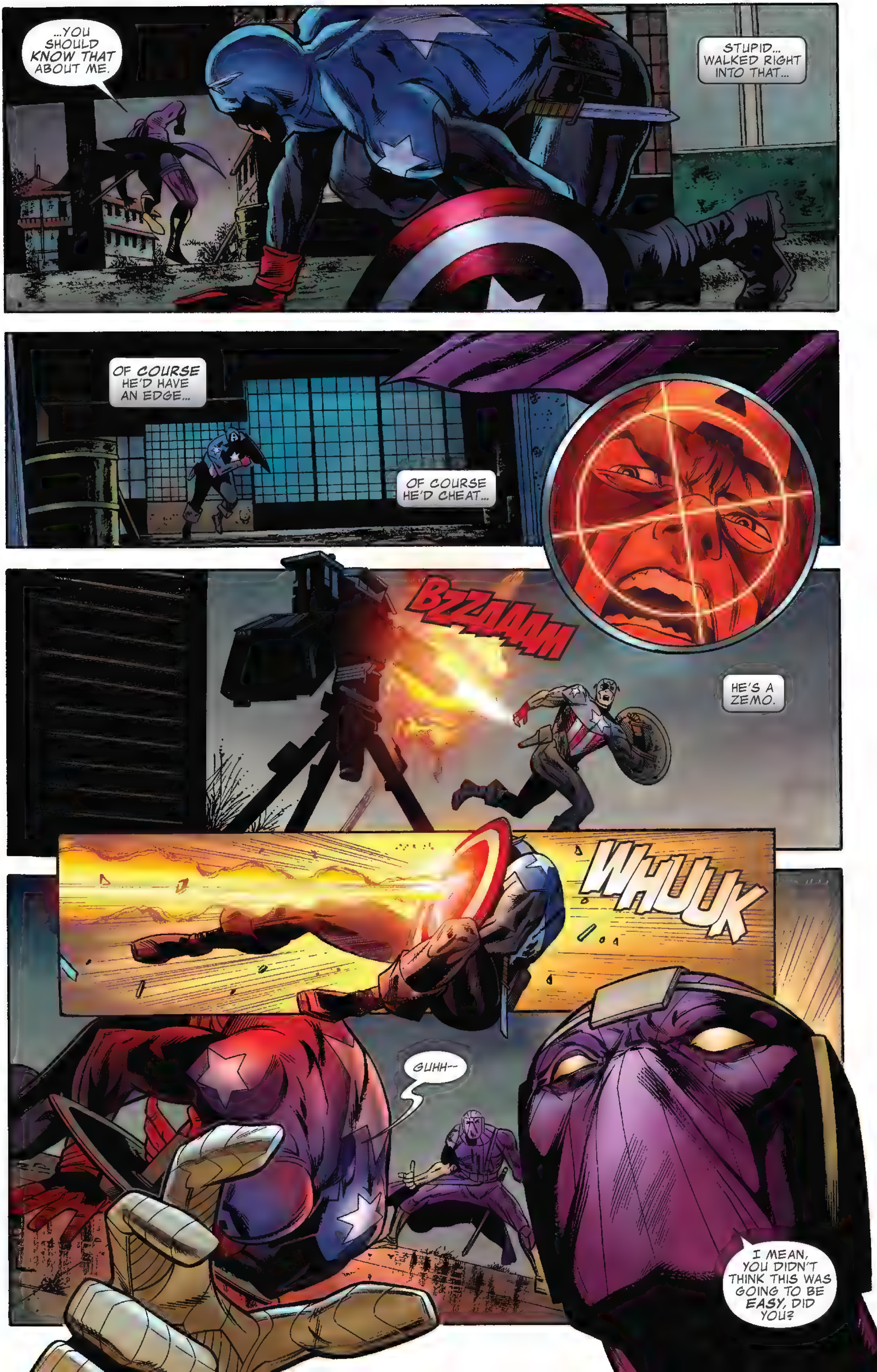

NO TIME FOR PAIN, THOUGH...
...NOW WHERE DID THEY SEE...?
THERE.
SAME GUY WHO WENT AFTER BUCKY AT THE HOSPITAL.
GAHH! VERDAMMT AMERICAN!
BLAM
THE HELL IF HE'S GETTIN' AWAY AGAIN.
KA-WHAAAM
UFTT--

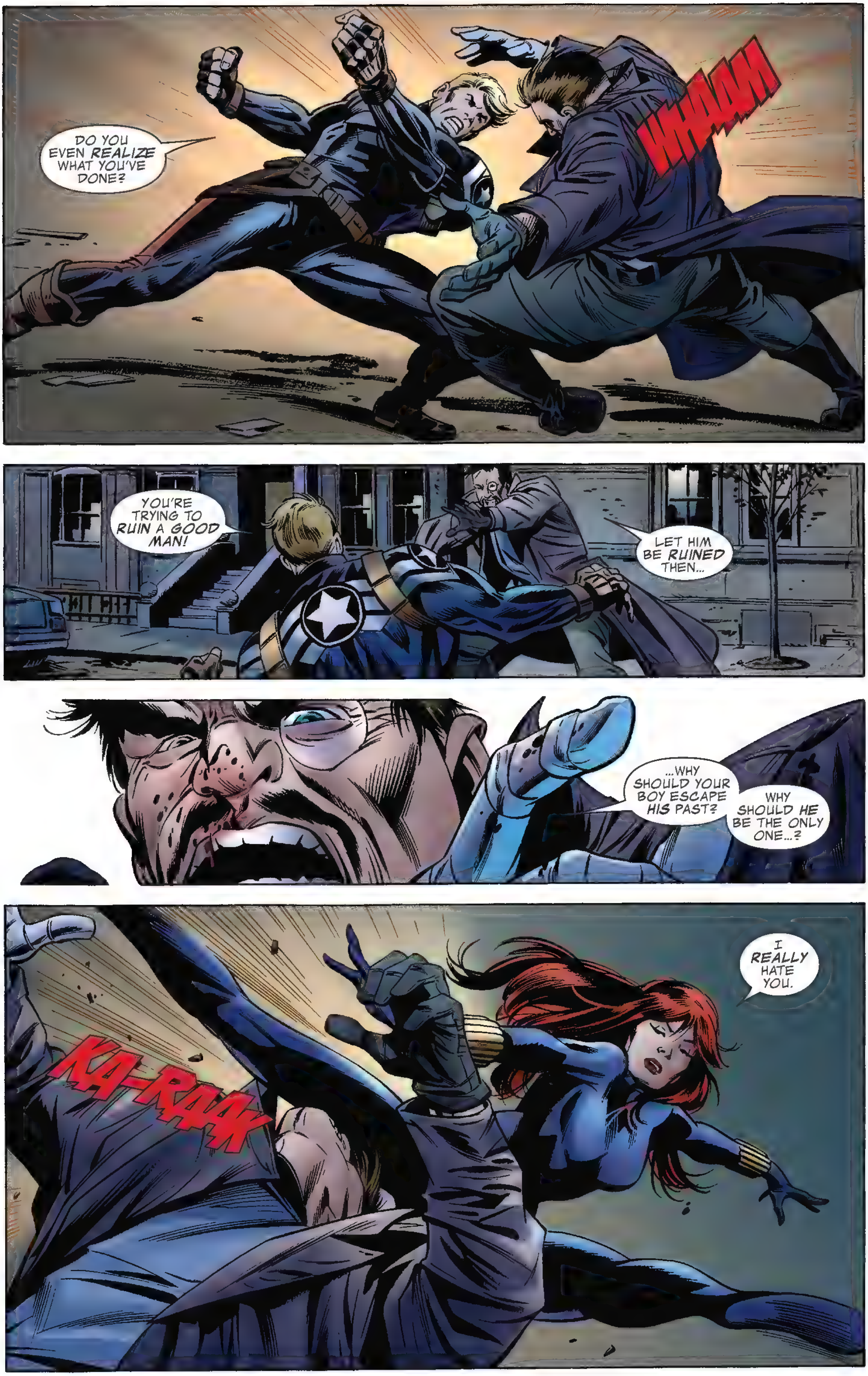

WELCOME TO FORT LEHIGH US ARMY
I DON'T GET IT...WHY WOULD ZEMO WANT ME HERE?
THIS PLACE IS NOTHING BUT GOOD MEMORIES FOR ME.
IT'S THE LAST PLACE I SAW MY DAD...
...AND WHERE I FIRST MET STEVE.
CALL ME BUCKY...
IF SUPER HEROES EVER GOT HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE...

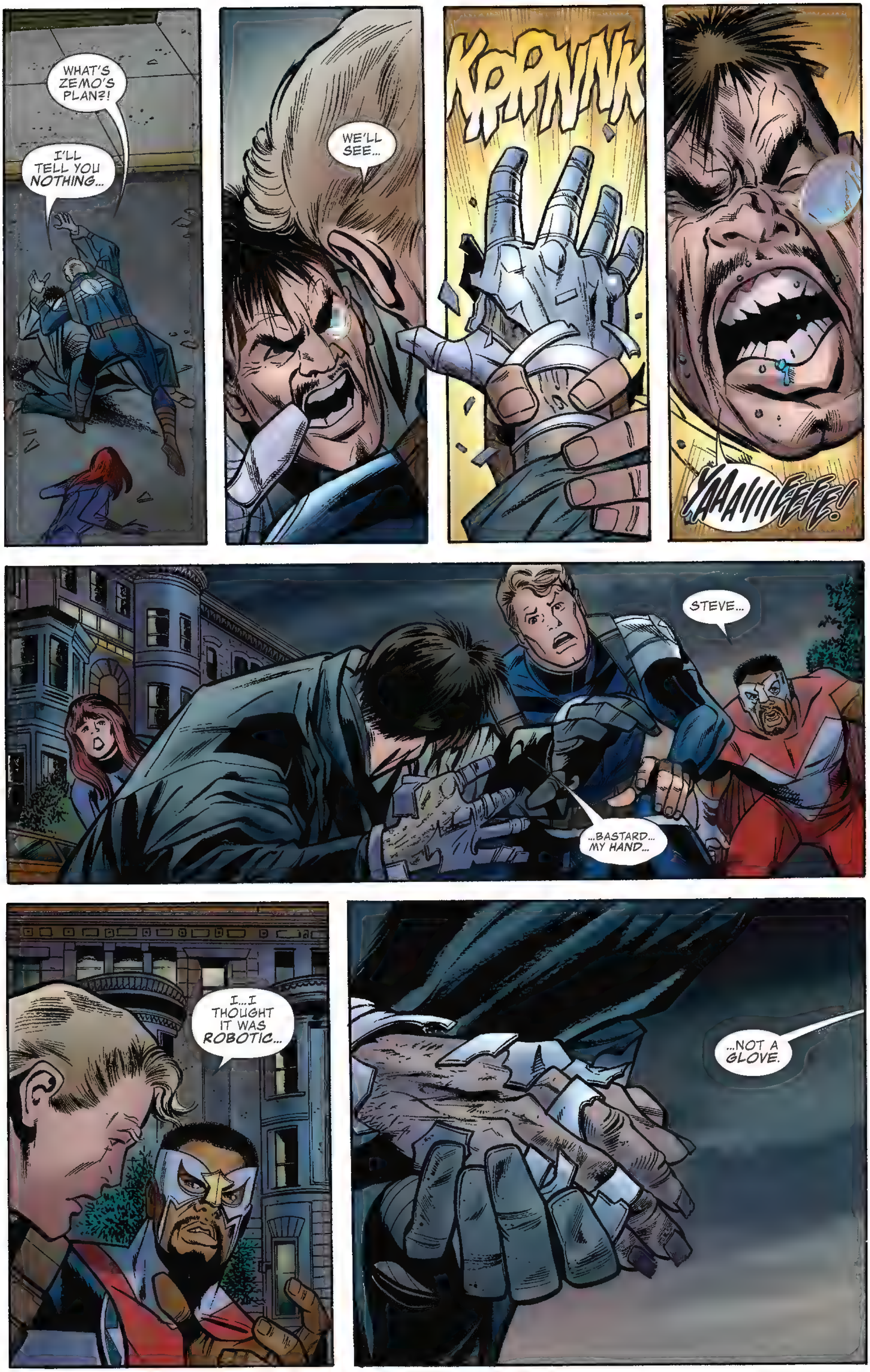

...THIS BASE WOULD BE *IT* FOR ME.
AH, GOOD...
...I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ***MISTAKE*** MY MEANING AND COME ***HERE***...
AND I GUESS I WAS ***RIGHT***...BUT AS I'VE BEEN FINDING OUT...
...YOU'RE FAIRLY ***EASY*** TO PREDICT, BUCKY.
ZEMO...
AH HA HA HA HA...
OH YES, LET'S ***DO*** THIS...

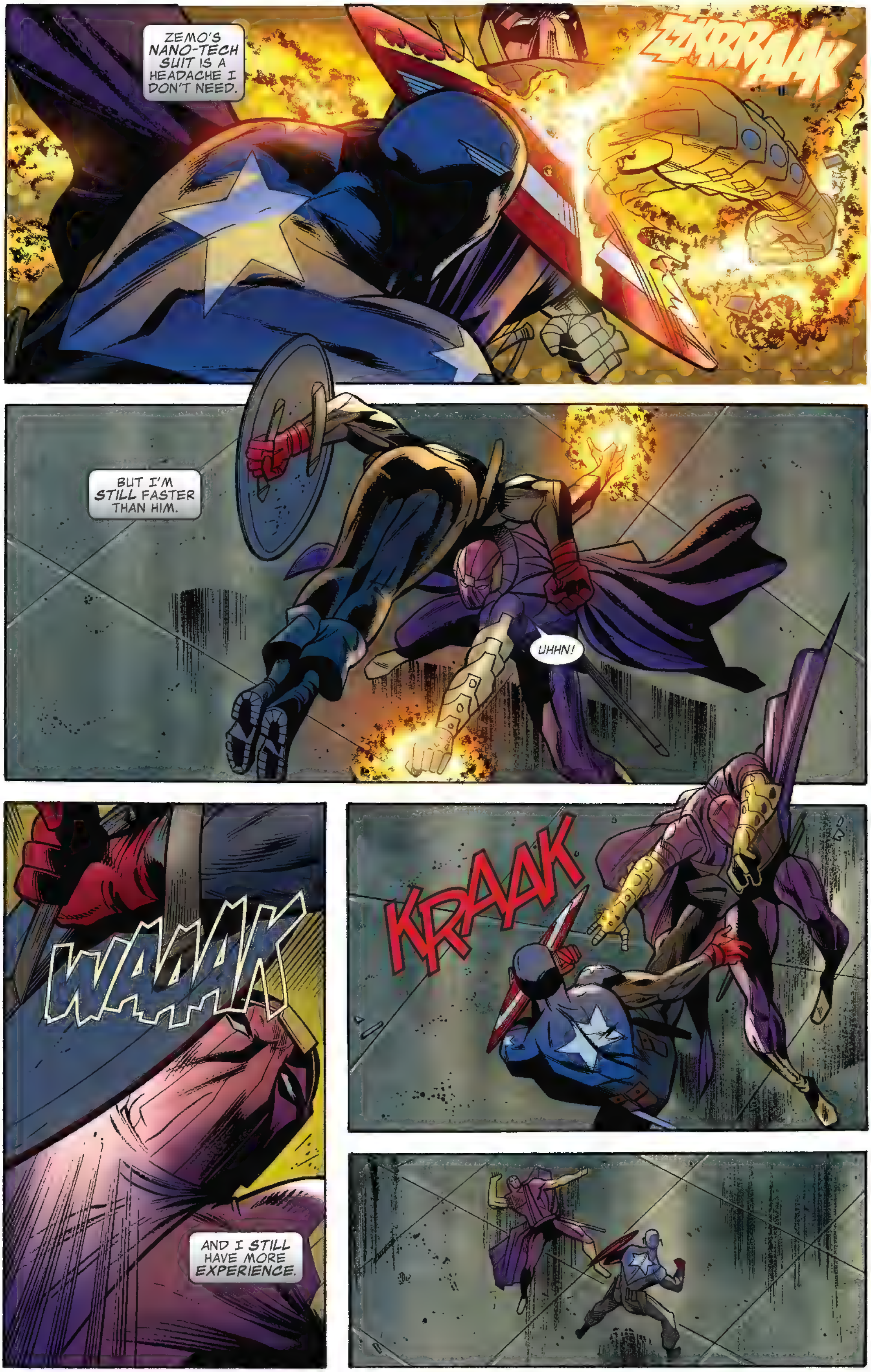

GUHH--!
SMAAK
WEAK... SUCH A WEAKLING...
I'LL KICK THOSE RIBS RIGHT THROUGH YOUR BLEEDING HEART.
...NUHH... UHHN...
I THINK NOT.
KA-WAAK
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? CAN YOU BREATH?
...JUST BARELY... WHERE'S STEVE?
TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS.

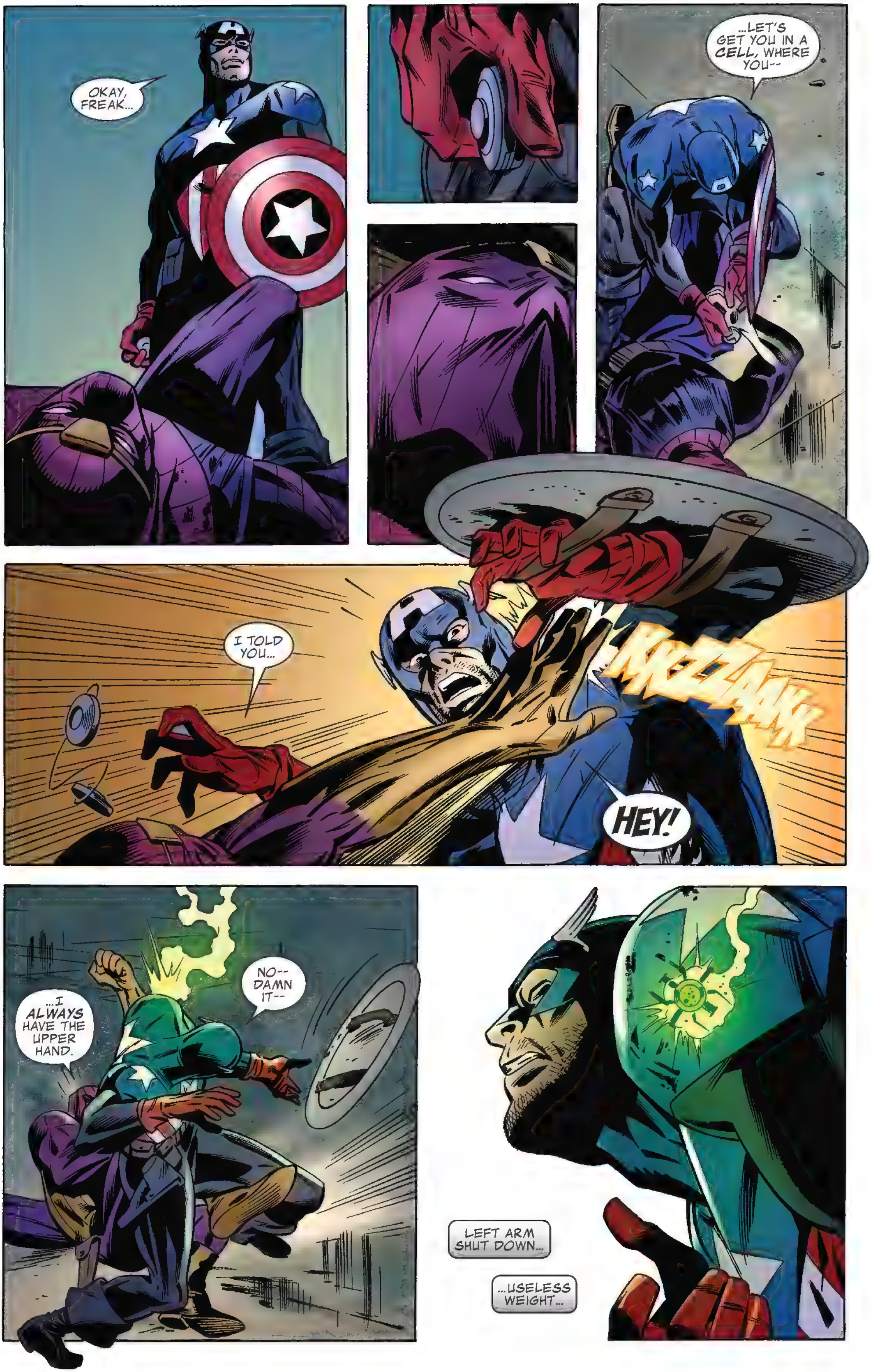

YOU SON OF A BITCH!
KRAKK
HAH!
I KNOW YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT THE ADVANTAGE...
WITH ALL YOUR YEARS OF COMBAT AND TRAINING...
KLANNG
...BUT MY NEW SUIT WAS DESIGNED BY A VERY CRUEL AND INVENTIVE TAILOR.
HEY--
NANO-TECH MACHINE FIBERS SEWN THROUGHOUT IT LIKE AN EXOSKELETON.
RESPONDING TO MY EVERY GESTURE.
UHH--
ZZMAAK
BUT THEN, I WAS ALWAYS GOING TO HAVE THE UPPER HAND...

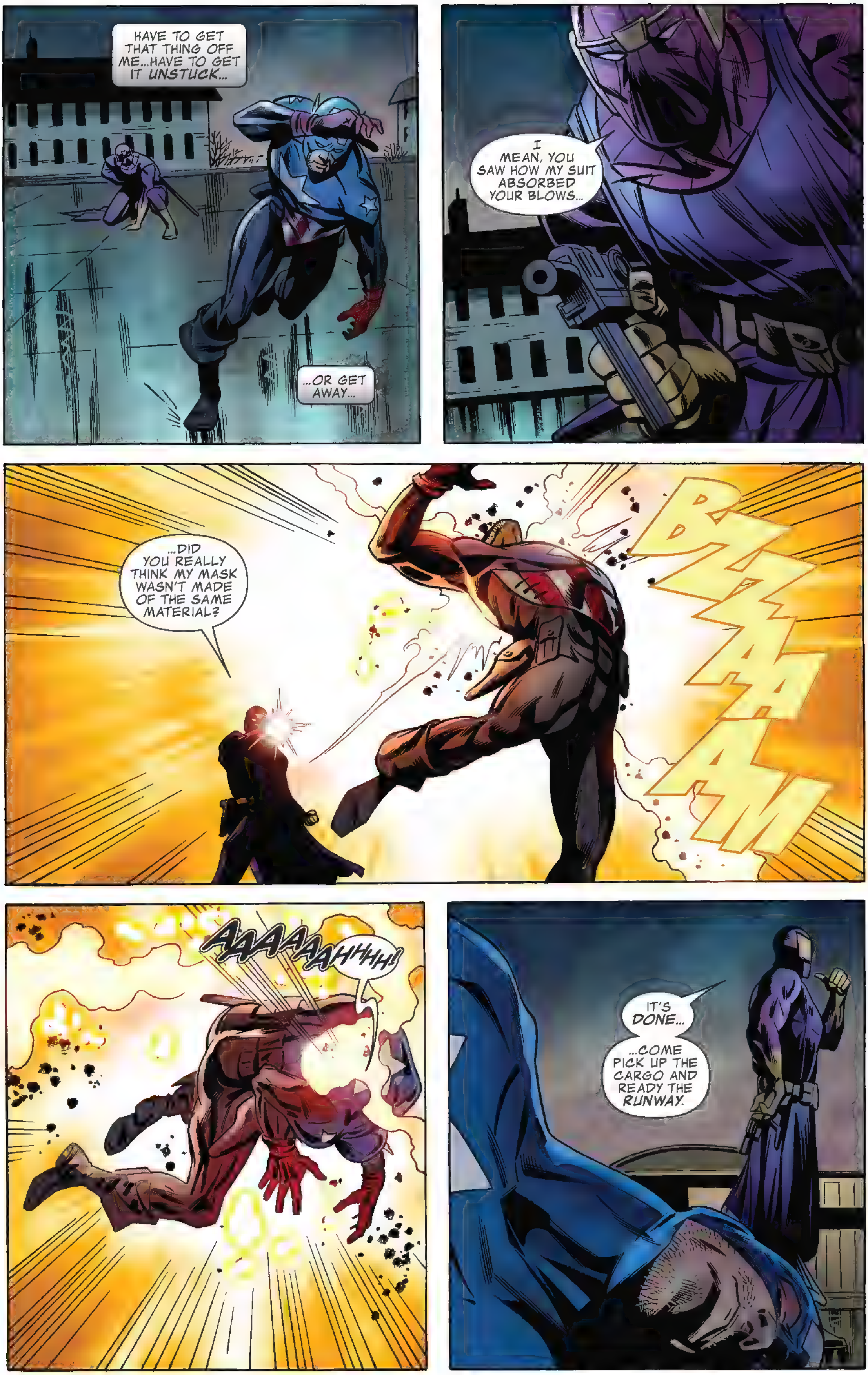

...YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT ABOUT ME.
STUPID... WALKED RIGHT INTO THAT...
OF COURSE HE'D HAVE AN EDGE...
OF COURSE HE'D CHEAT...
BZZAAAM
HE'S A ZEMO.
WHUUK
GUHH--
I MEAN, YOU DIDN'T THINK THIS WAS GOING TO BE EASY, DID YOU?

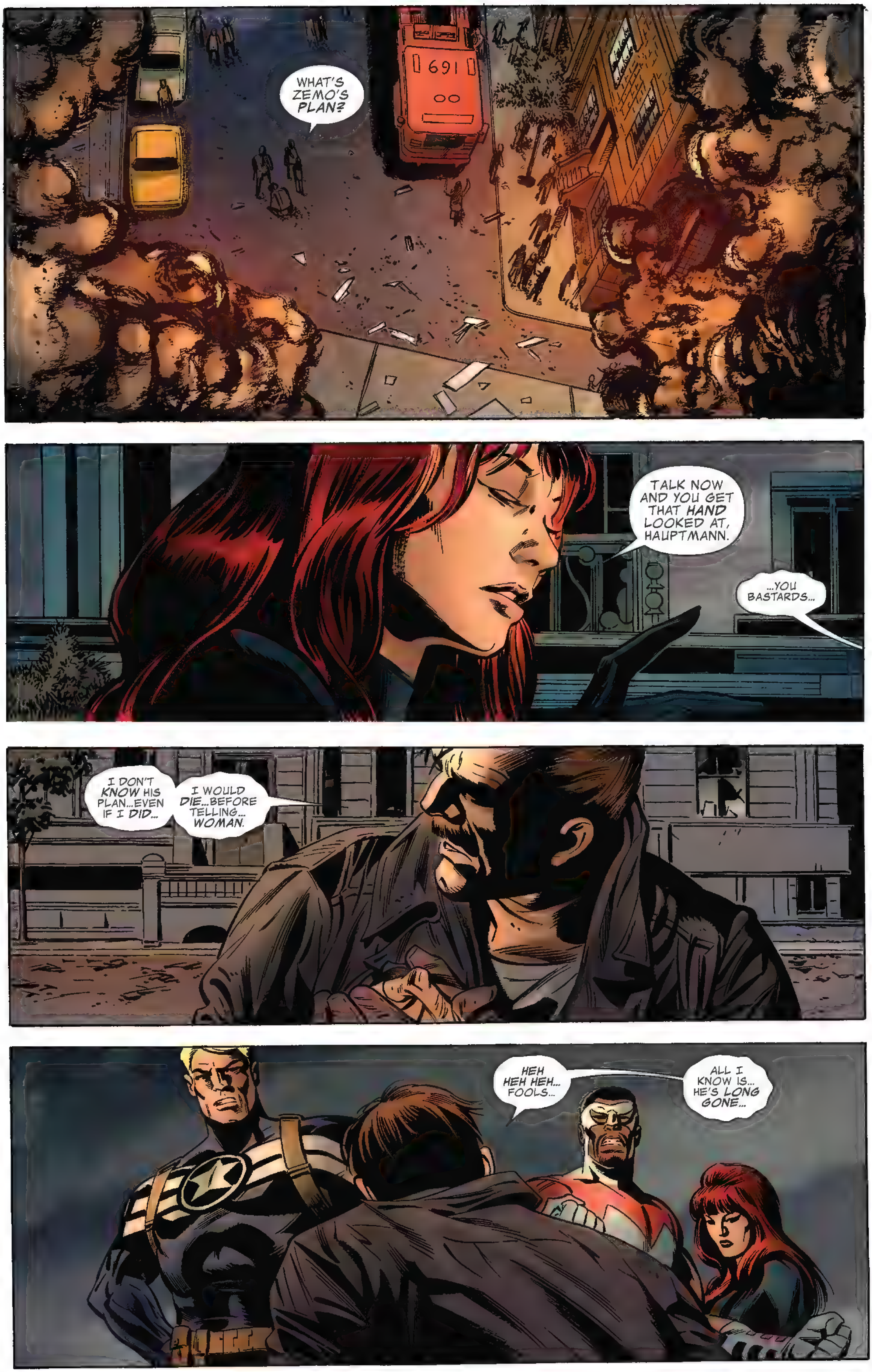

DO YOU EVEN *REALIZE* WHAT YOU'VE DONE?
WHAAM
YOU'RE TRYING TO *RUIN* A *GOOD MAN!*
LET HIM BE *RUINED* THEN...
...WHY SHOULD YOUR BOY ESCAPE *HIS* PAST?
WHY SHOULD *HE* BE THE ONLY ONE...?
KA-RAAK
I *REALLY* HATE YOU.

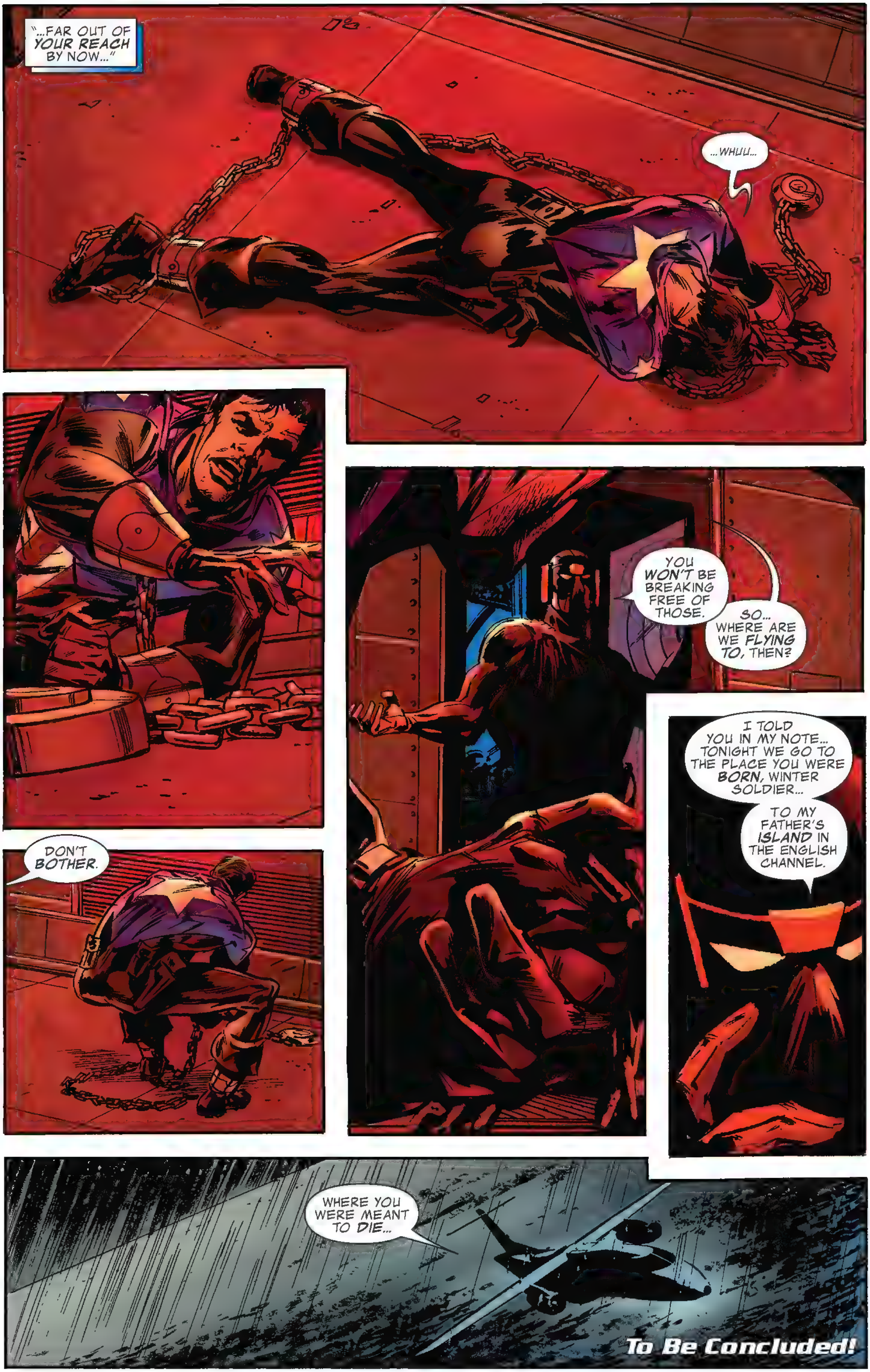

WHAT'S ZEMO'S PLAN?!
I'LL TELL YOU NOTHING...
WE'LL SEE...
KRRNNK
YAAAIIIIEEEE!
STEVE...
...BASTARD... MY HAND...
I...I THOUGHT IT WAS ROBOTIC...
...NOT A GLOVE.


ZEMO'S NANO-TECH SUIT IS A HEADACHE I DON'T NEED.
ZZRRAAK
BUT I'M STILL FASTER THAN HIM.
UHHN!
WAAK
KRAAK
AND I STILL HAVE MORE EXPERIENCE.


OKAY, FREAK...
...LET'S GET YOU IN A CELL, WHERE YOU--
I TOLD YOU...
KKZZAAKK
HEY!
...I ALWAYS HAVE THE UPPER HAND.
NO-- DAMN IT--
LEFT ARM SHUT DOWN...
...USELESS WEIGHT...


HAVE TO GET THAT THING OFF ME...HAVE TO GET IT UNSTUCK...
...OR GET AWAY...
I MEAN, YOU SAW HOW MY SUIT ABSORBED YOUR BLOWS...
...DID YOU REALLY THINK MY MASK WASN'T MADE OF THE SAME MATERIAL?
BZZAAAM
AAAAAAHHHH!
IT'S DONE...
...COME PICK UP THE CARGO AND READY THE RUNWAY.


WHAT'S ZEMO'S *PLAN?*
691
TALK NOW AND YOU GET THAT *HAND* LOOKED AT, HAUPTMANN.
...YOU BASTARDS...
I DON'T *KNOW* HIS PLAN...EVEN IF I *DID*...
I WOULD *DIE*...BEFORE TELLING... *WOMAN.*
HEH HEH HEH... FOOLS...
ALL I KNOW IS... HE'S *LONG GONE*...


"...FAR OUT OF *YOUR REACH* BY NOW..."
...WHUU...
DON'T *BOTHER.*
YOU *WON'T* BE BREAKING FREE OF THOSE.
SO... WHERE ARE WE *FLYING TO,* THEN?
I TOLD YOU IN MY NOTE... TONIGHT WE GO TO THE PLACE YOU WERE *BORN,* WINTER SOLDIER...
TO MY FATHER'S *ISLAND* IN THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.
WHERE YOU WERE MEANT TO *DIE...*
To Be Concluded!

THE HEROIC
CAPTAIN AMERICA
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RY U.S.
Is Begun
ngress Takes
Prompt Action

CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But there are some who are not happy that Bucky, thought killed towards the end of the war, is still alive. The son of the original Baron Zemo, Baron Helmut Zemo, recently discovered that his father failed to kill Bucky in World War II. Determined to destroy Bucky's life, Zemo attacked Bucky's partner, the Falcon, and had Bucky drugged, causing him to hallucinate and attack several police officers.

Attempting to clear his name, Bucky and Natasha Romanova, the Black Widow, tracked down the bartender that drugged him, revealing her to be the newest incarnation of the villain The Beetle. After subduing her, Bucky and Nat are shocked to learn that the Beetle knows Bucky's identity, and after Zemo virally spreads it and Bucky's dark tenure as the Soviet Winter Soldier across the web, the entire world knows, too.

Bucky, dealing with the fallout of Zemo's plan, prepares to leave for a safe house, until a taunting note from Zemo baits him into tearing off to his original Army base, Fort Lehigh. While Natasha, Steve, and Falcon fight off Zemo's henchman Iron Hand Hauptmann, Zemo overpowers Bucky and takes him prisoner. Their destination: Zemo's father's island in the English Channel...where Bucky and Steve originally met their presumed demise!

NO ESCAPE conclusion

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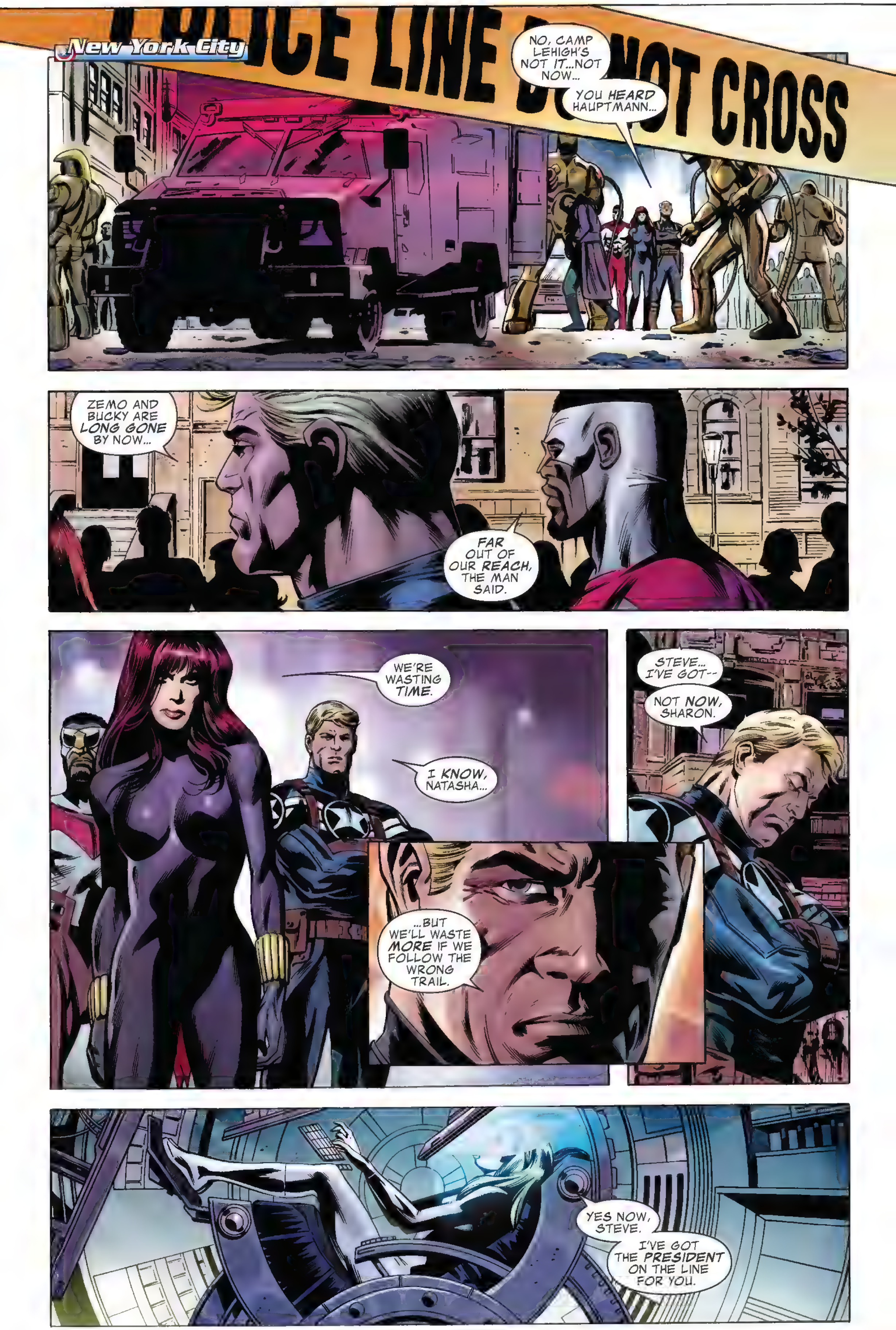
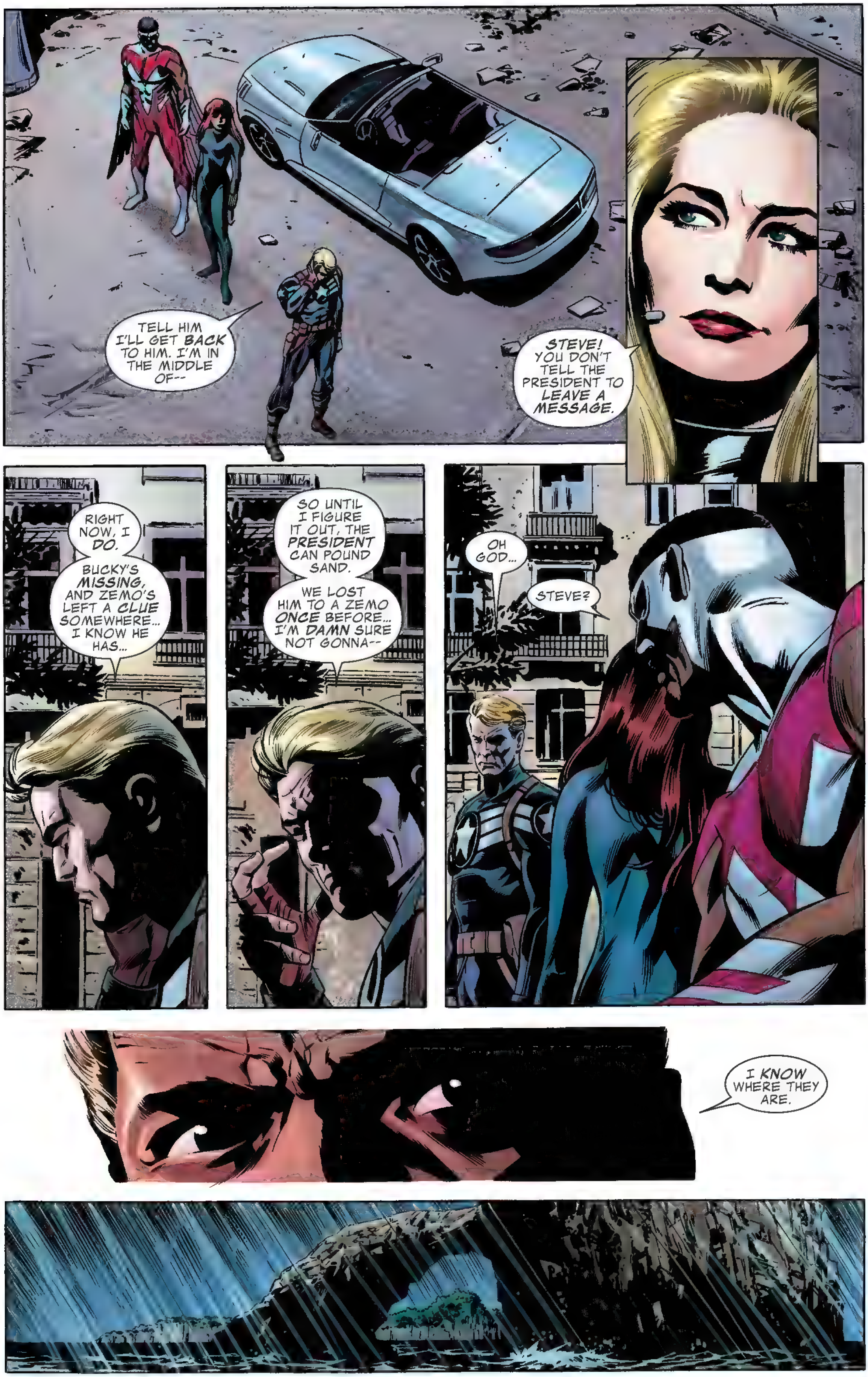
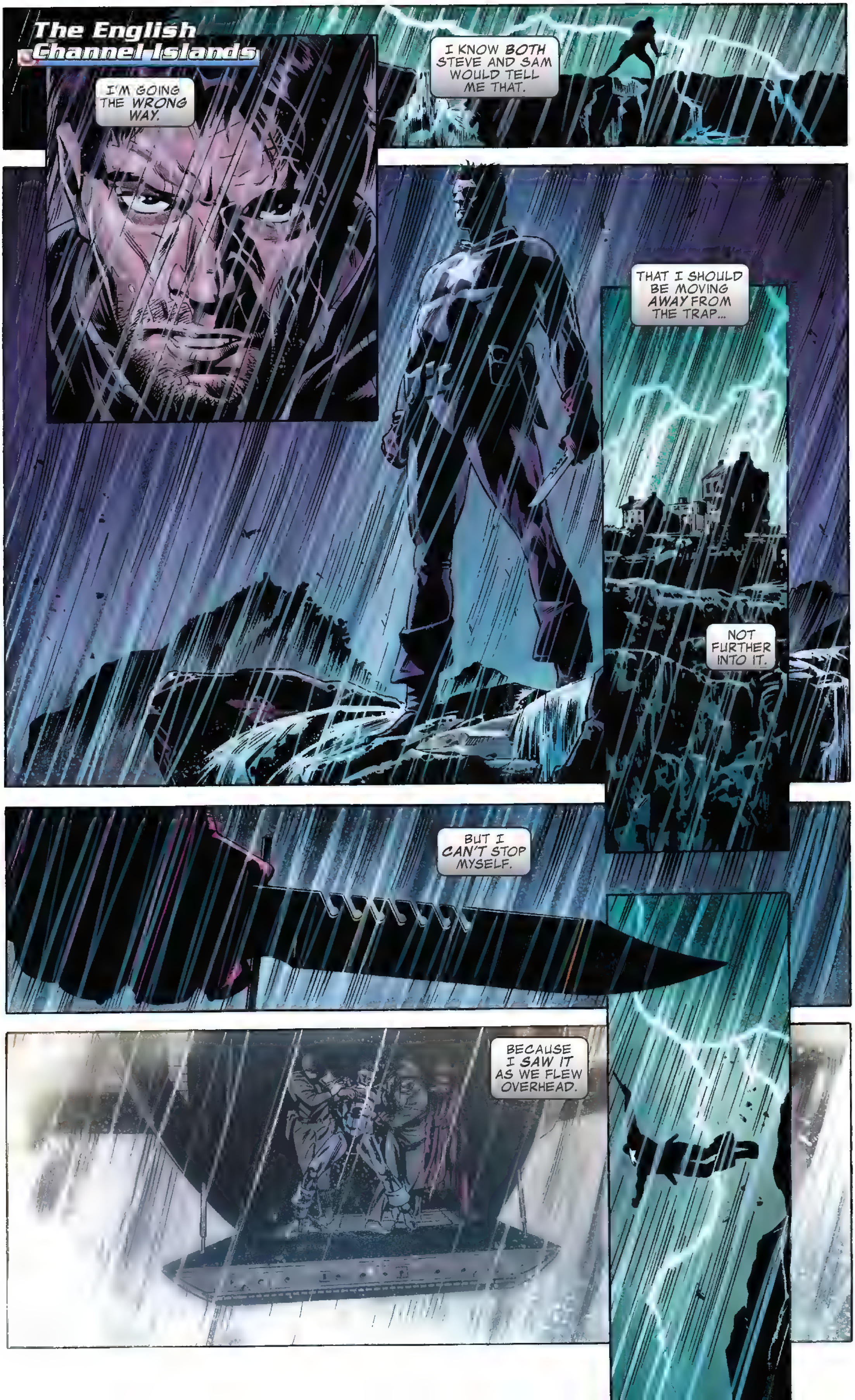
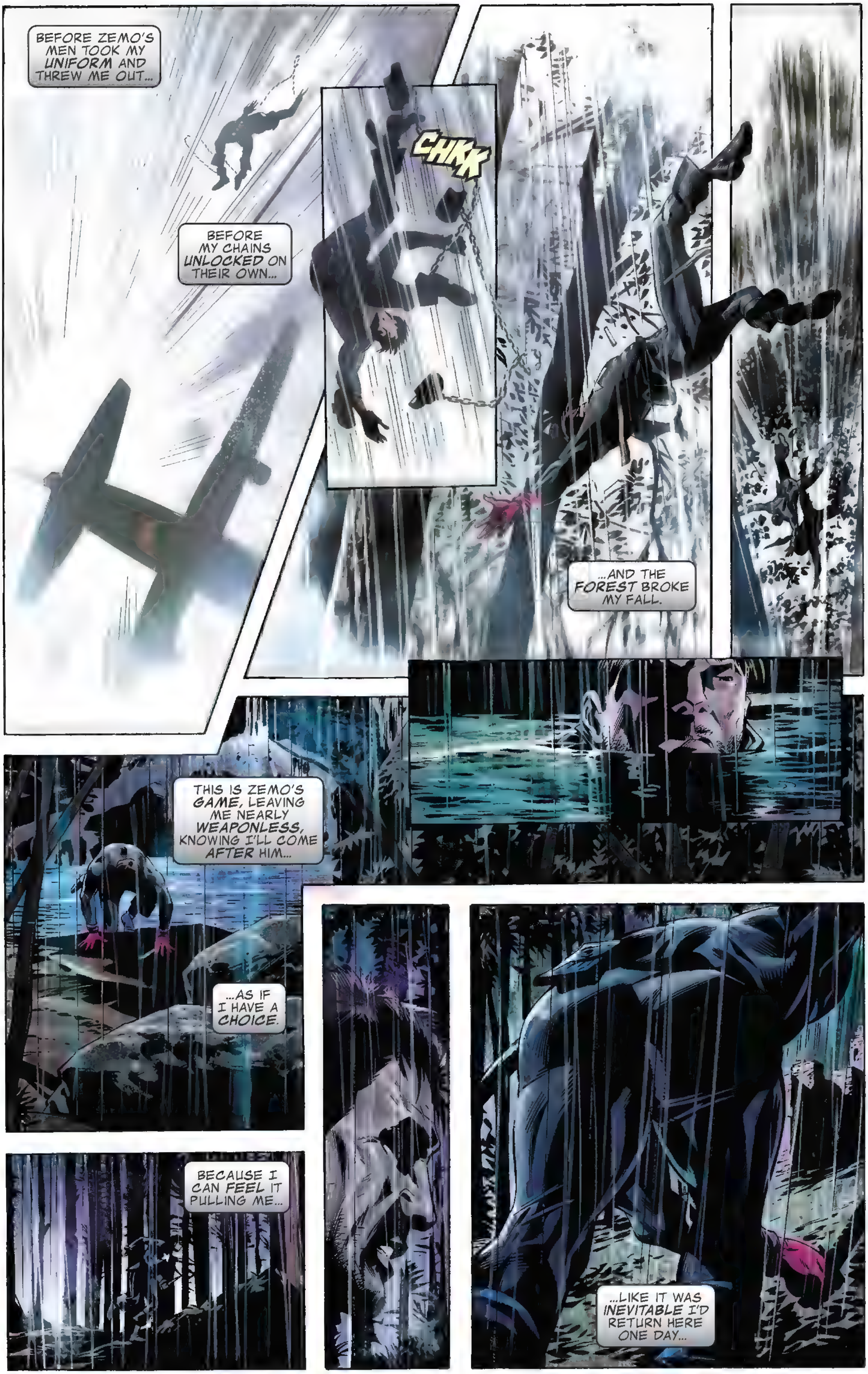
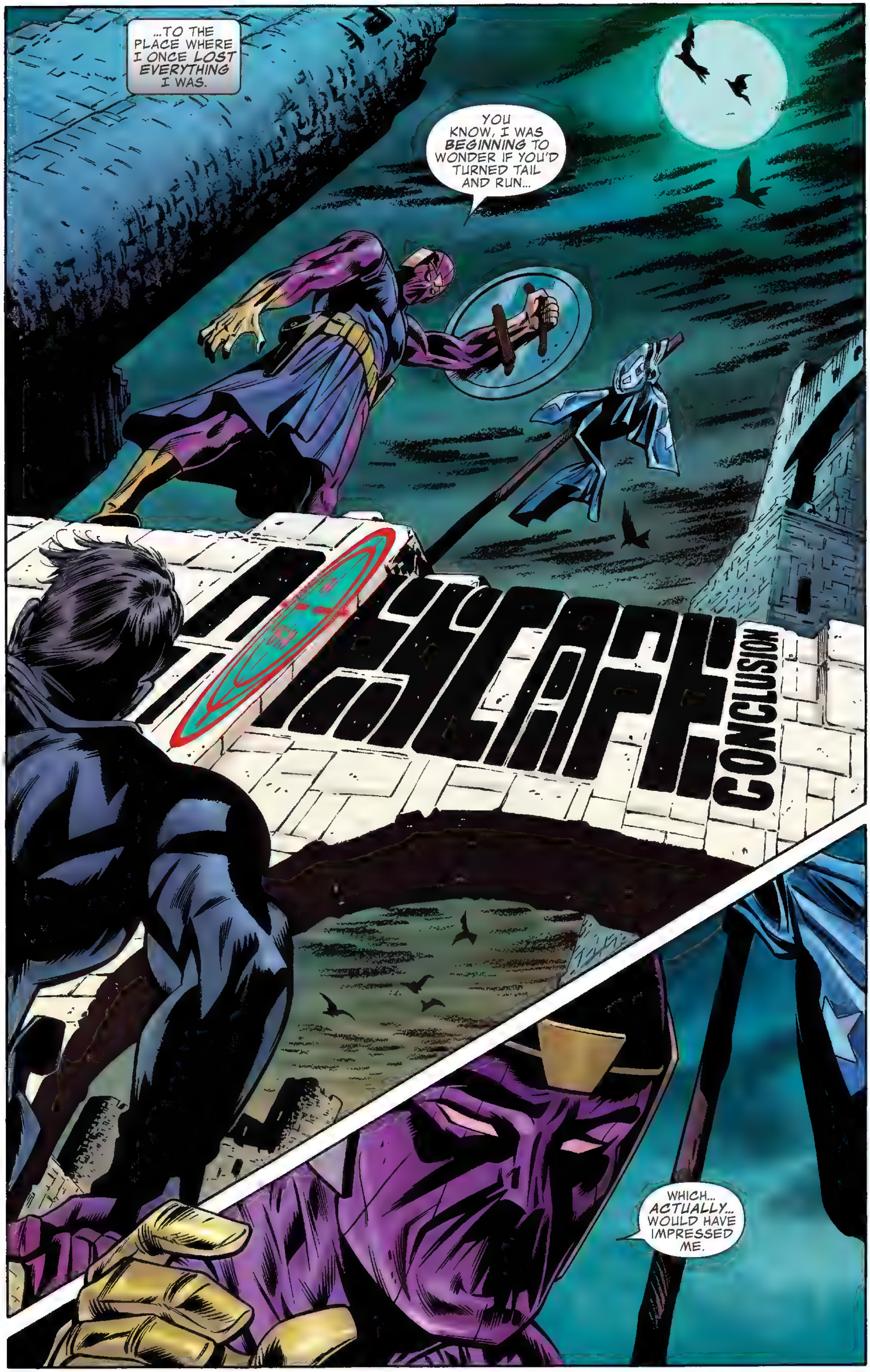
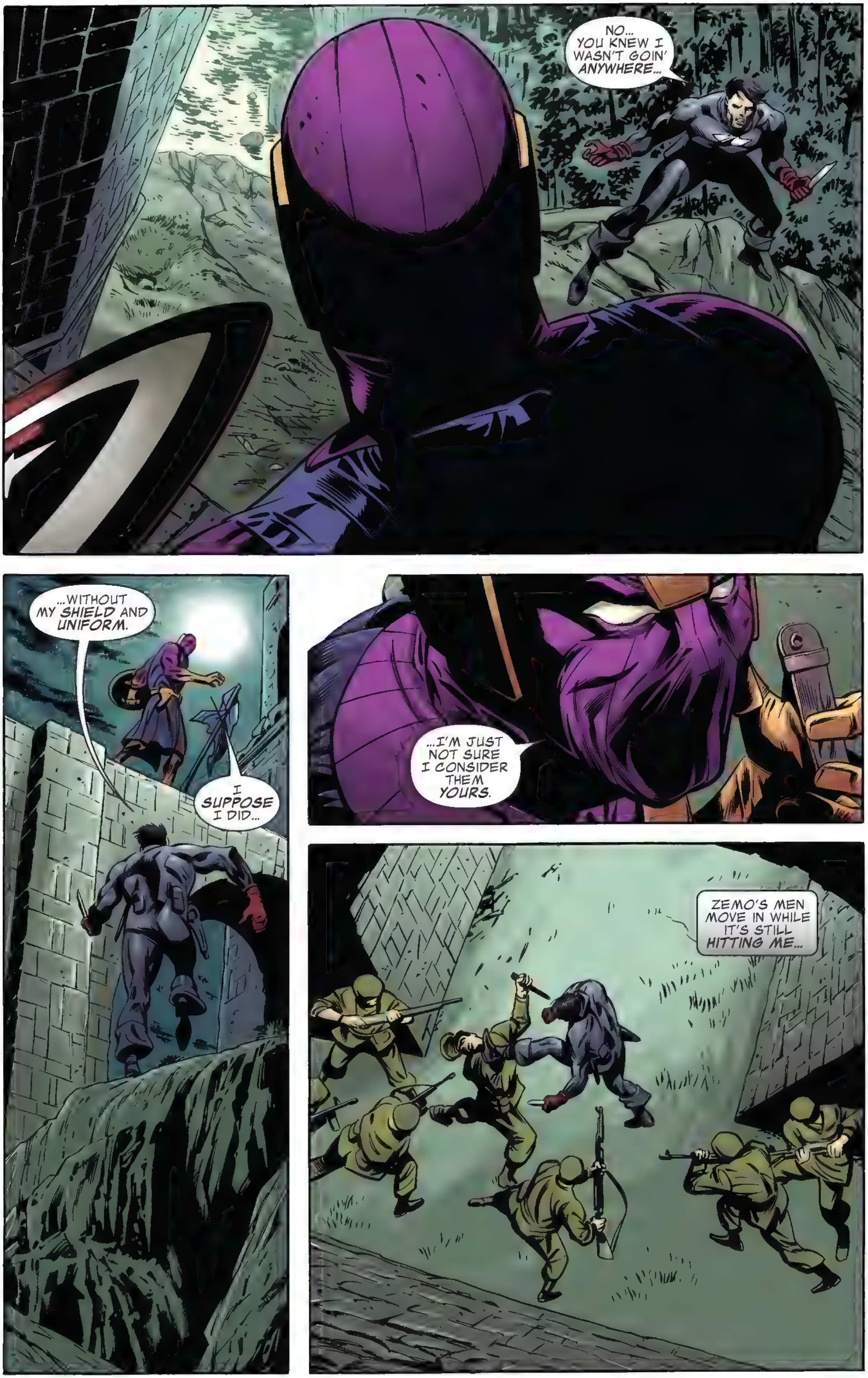

New York City
ICE LINE D
OT CROSS
NO, CAMP LEHIGH'S NOT IT...NOT NOW...
YOU HEARD HAUPTMANN...
ZEMO AND BUCKY ARE LONG GONE BY NOW...
FAR OUT OF OUR REACH, THE MAN SAID.
WE'RE WASTING TIME.
I KNOW, NATASHA...
...BUT WE'LL WASTE MORE IF WE FOLLOW THE WRONG TRAIL.
STEVE... I'VE GOT--
NOT NOW, SHARON.
YES NOW, STEVE.
I'VE GOT THE PRESIDENT ON THE LINE FOR YOU.

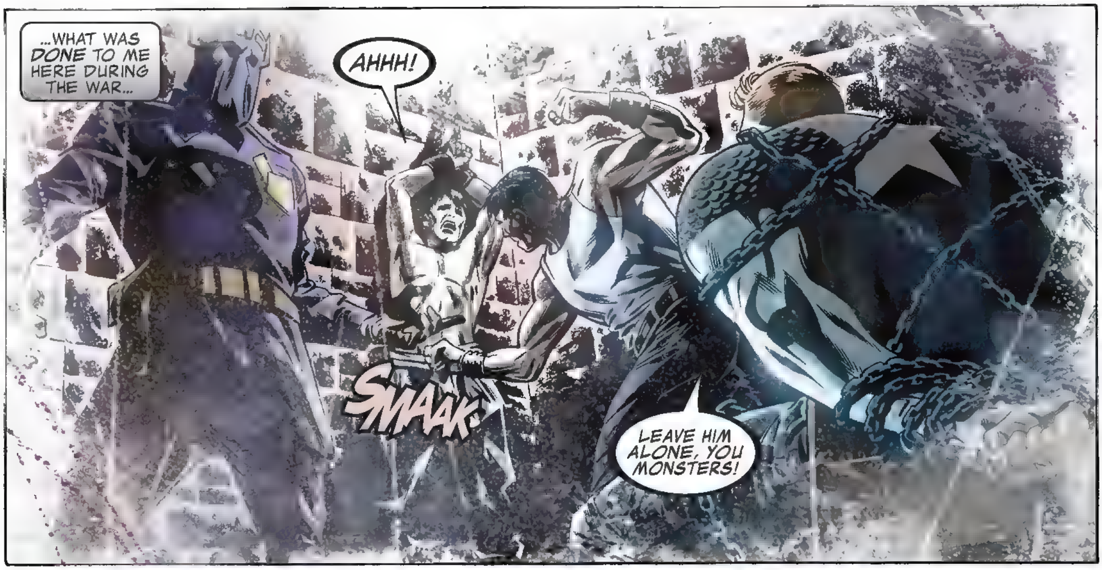

TELL HIM I'LL GET BACK TO HIM. I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF--
STEVE! YOU DON'T TELL THE PRESIDENT TO LEAVE A MESSAGE.
RIGHT NOW, I DO.
BUCKY'S MISSING, AND ZEMO'S LEFT A CLUE SOMEWHERE... I KNOW HE HAS...
SO UNTIL I FIGURE IT OUT, THE PRESIDENT CAN POUND SAND.
WE LOST HIM TO A ZEMO ONCE BEFORE... I'M DAMN SURE NOT GONNA--
OH GOD...
STEVE?
I KNOW WHERE THEY ARE.

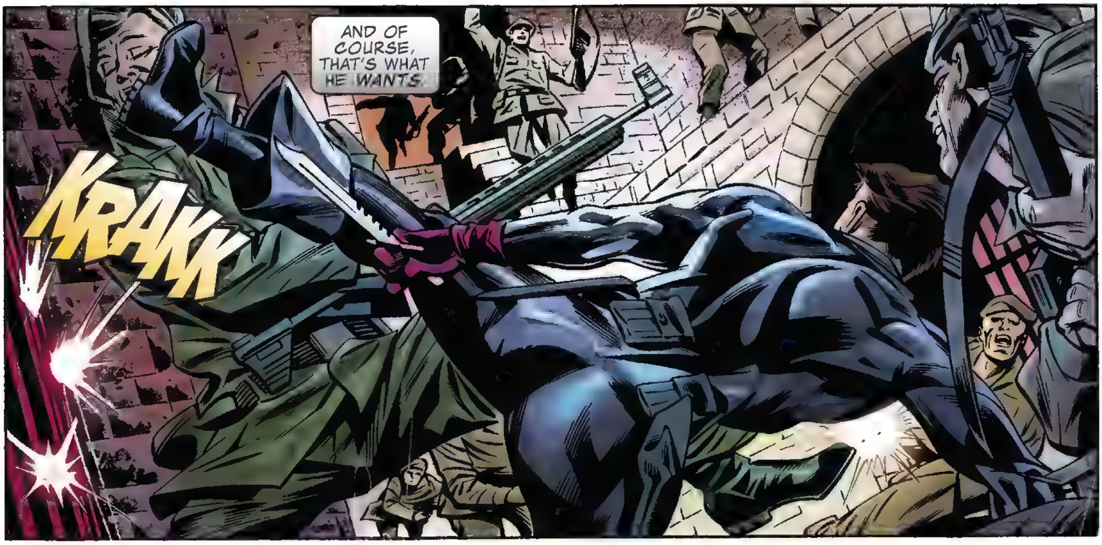

The English Channel Islands
I'M GOING THE WRONG WAY.
I KNOW BOTH STEVE AND SAM WOULD TELL ME THAT.
THAT I SHOULD BE MOVING AWAY FROM THE TRAP...
NOT FURTHER INTO IT.
BUT I CAN'T STOP MYSELF.
BECAUSE I SAW IT AS WE FLEW OVERHEAD.

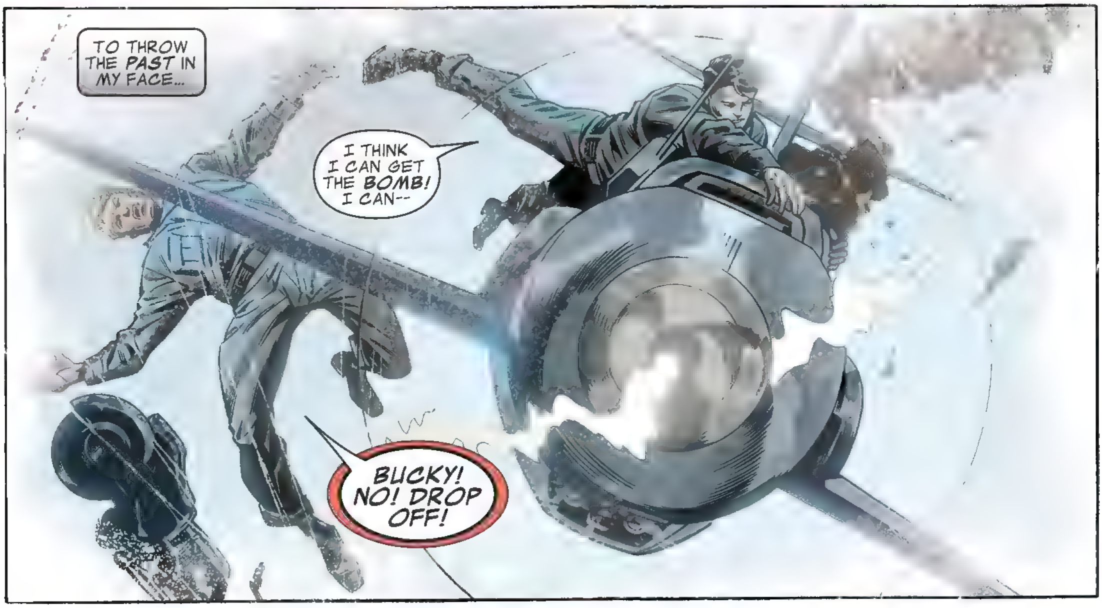

BEFORE ZEMO'S MEN TOOK MY *UNIFORM* AND THREW ME OUT...
BEFORE MY CHAINS *UNLOCKED* ON THEIR OWN...
CHKK
...AND THE *FOREST* BROKE MY FALL.
THIS IS ZEMO'S *GAME*, LEAVING ME NEARLY *WEAPONLESS*, KNOWING I'LL COME *AFTER* HIM...
...AS IF I HAVE A *CHOICE*.
BECAUSE I CAN *FEEL* IT PULLING ME...
...LIKE IT WAS *INEVITABLE* I'D RETURN HERE ONE DAY...

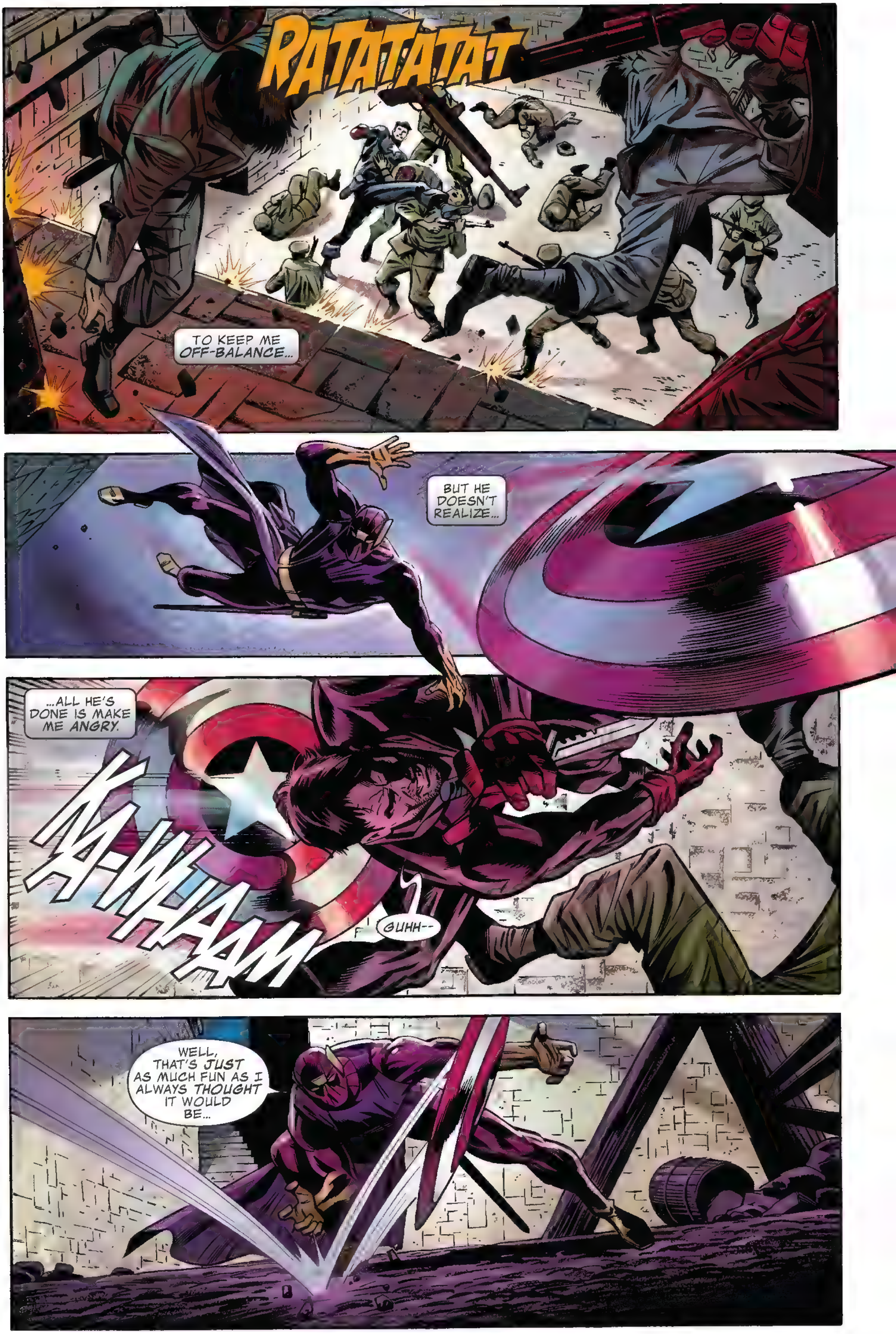

...TO THE PLACE WHERE I ONCE *LOST EVERYTHING* I WAS.
YOU KNOW, I WAS *BEGINNING* TO WONDER IF YOU'D TURNED TAIL AND RUN...
ESCAPE
CONCLUSION
WHICH... *ACTUALLY*... WOULD HAVE IMPRESSED ME.

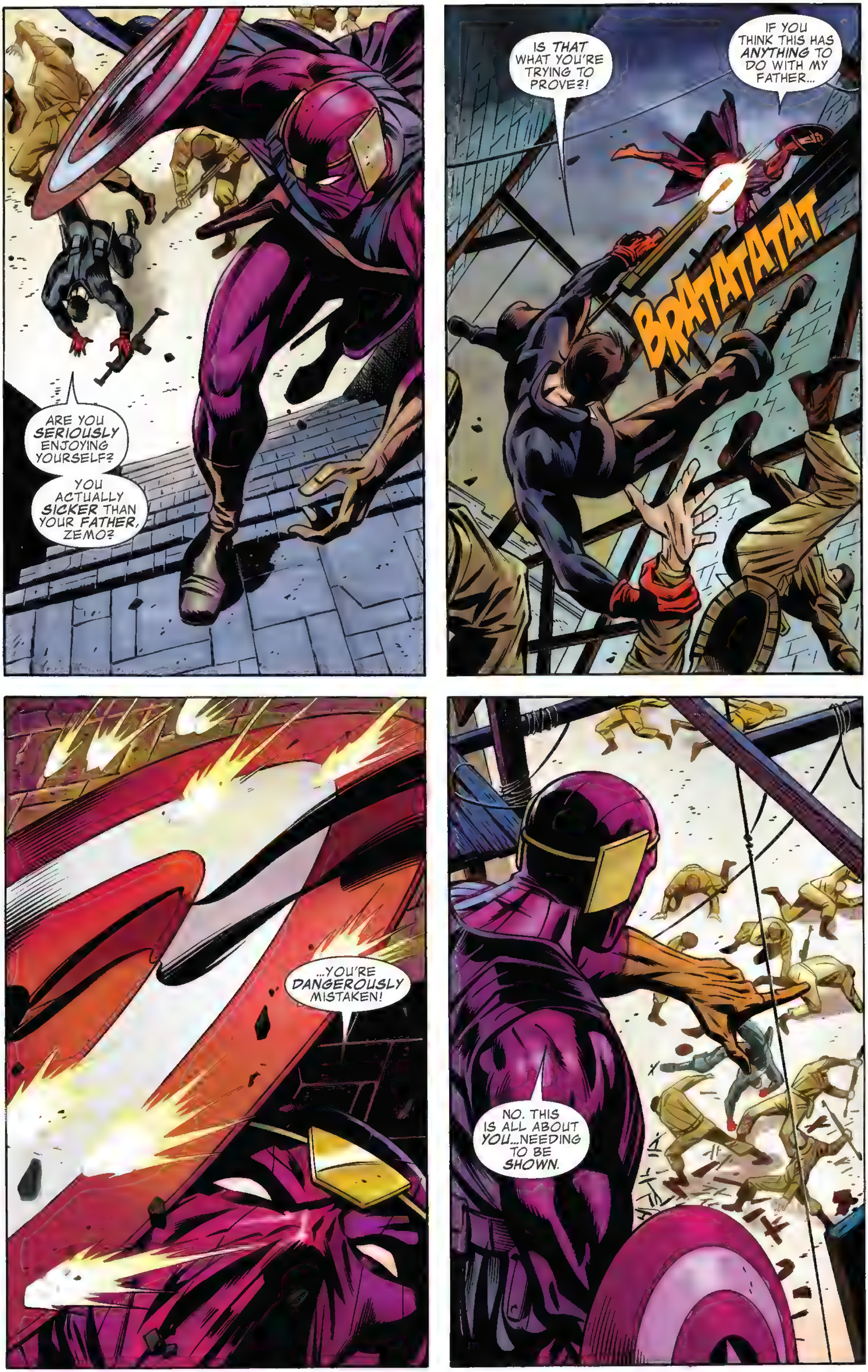

NO... YOU KNEW I WASN'T GOIN' ANYWHERE...
...WITHOUT MY SHIELD AND UNIFORM.
I SUPPOSE I DID...
...I'M JUST NOT SURE I CONSIDER THEM YOURS.
ZEMO'S MEN MOVE IN WHILE IT'S STILL HITTING ME...

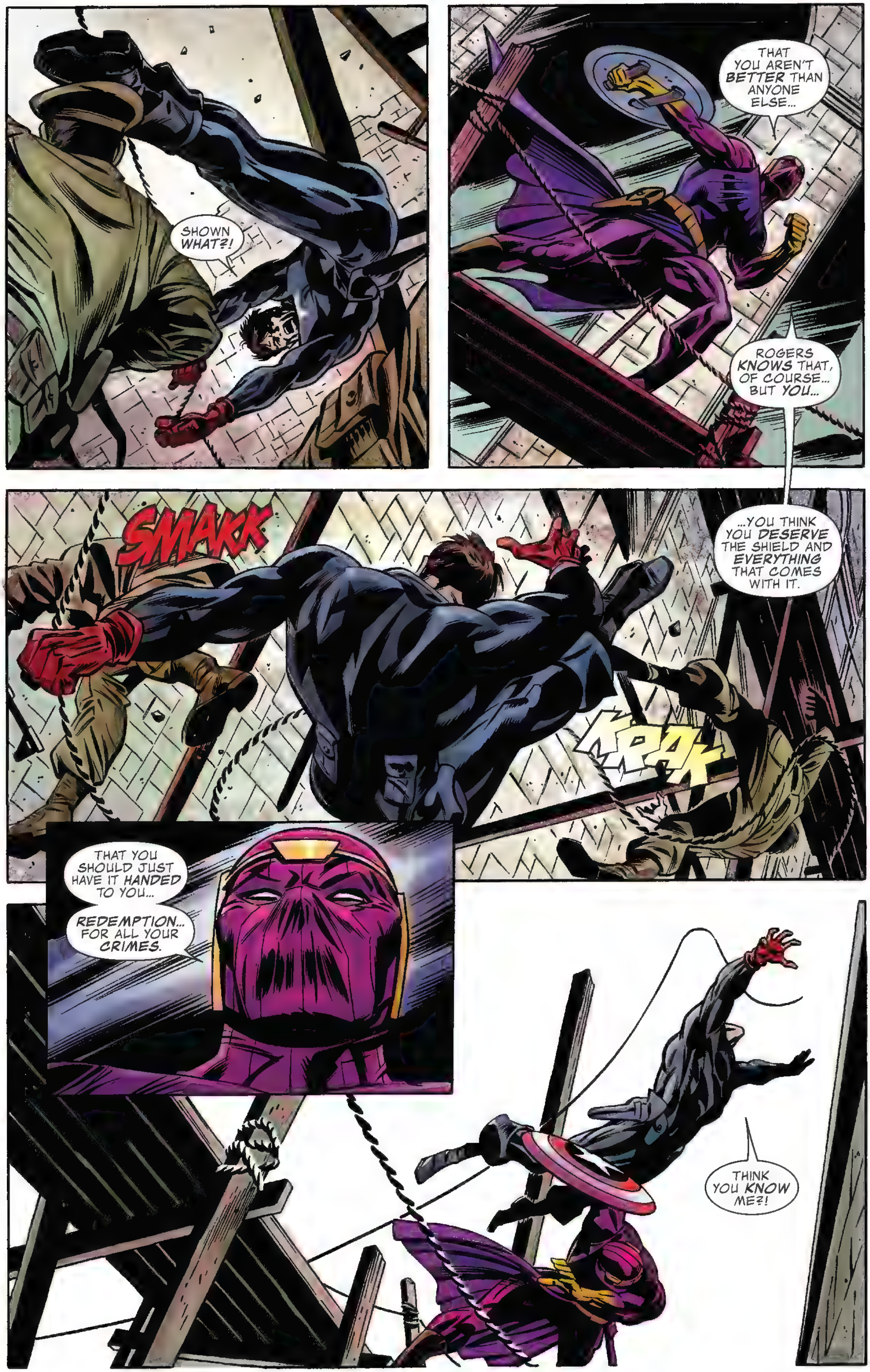

...WHAT WAS *DONE* TO ME HERE DURING THE WAR...
AHHH!
SMAAK
LEAVE HIM ALONE, YOU MONSTERS!

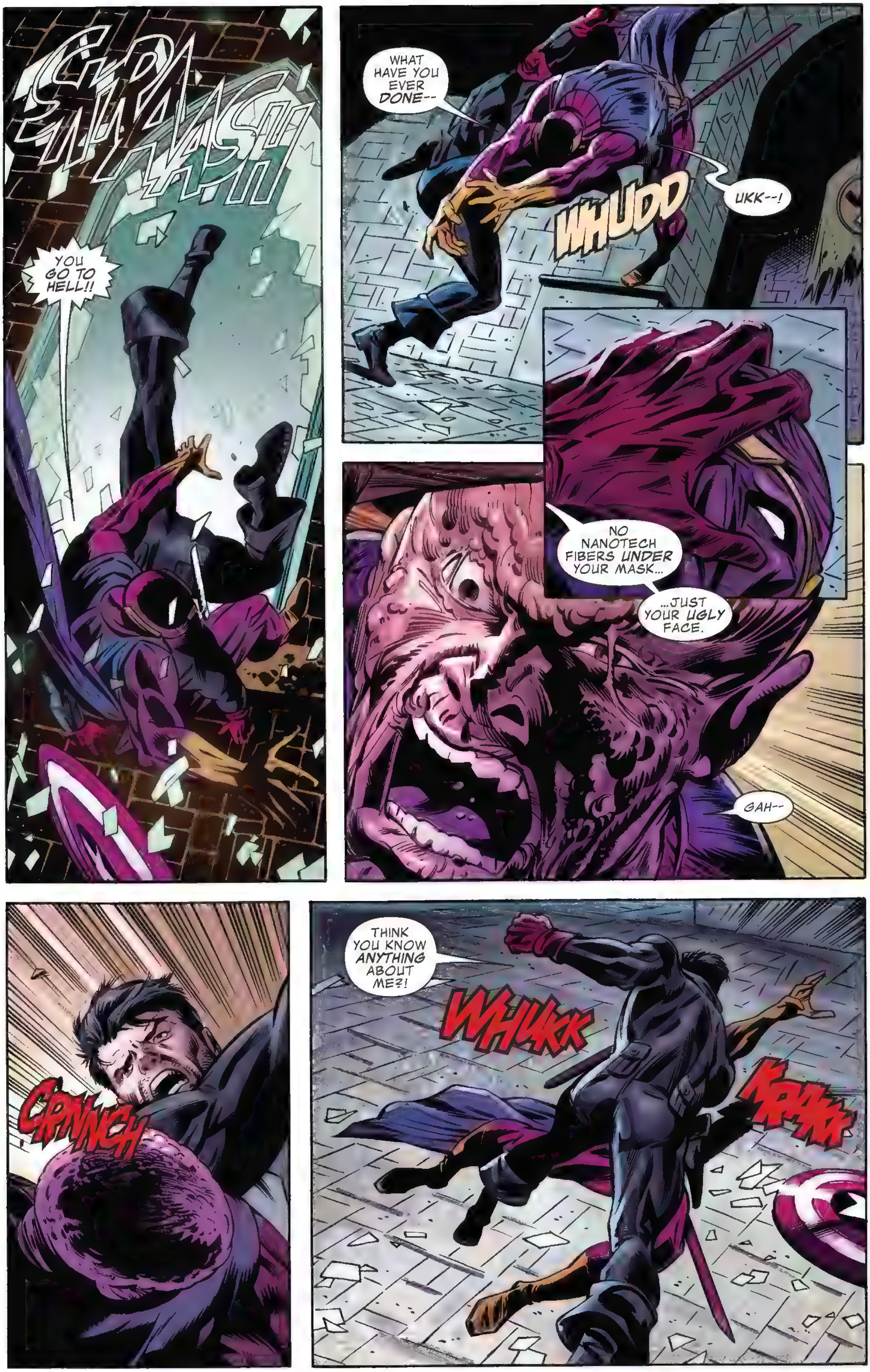

AND OF COURSE, THAT'S WHAT HE *WANTS*.
KRAKK

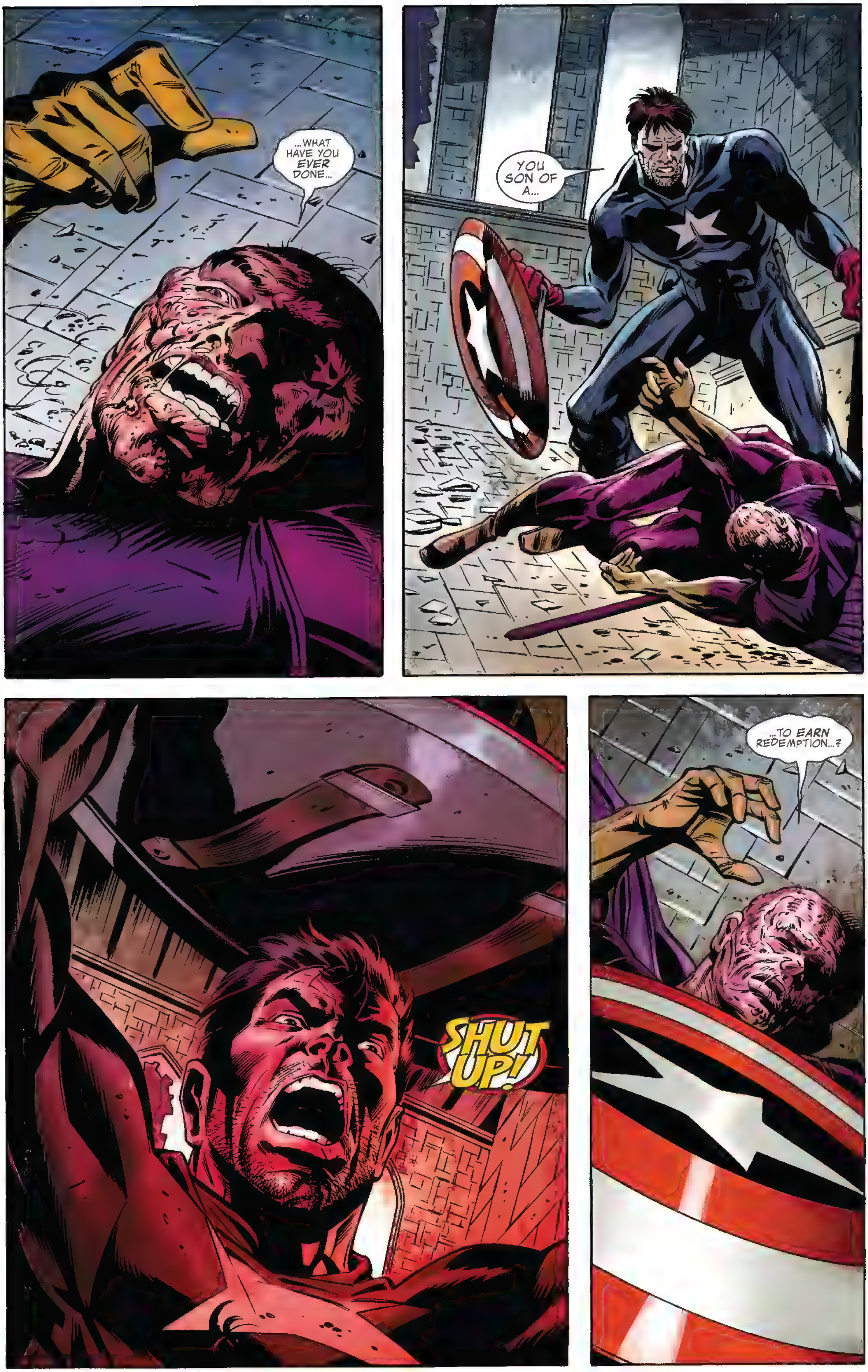

TO THROW THE *PAST* IN MY FACE...
I THINK I CAN GET THE *BOMB!* I CAN--
BUCKY! NO! DROP OFF!

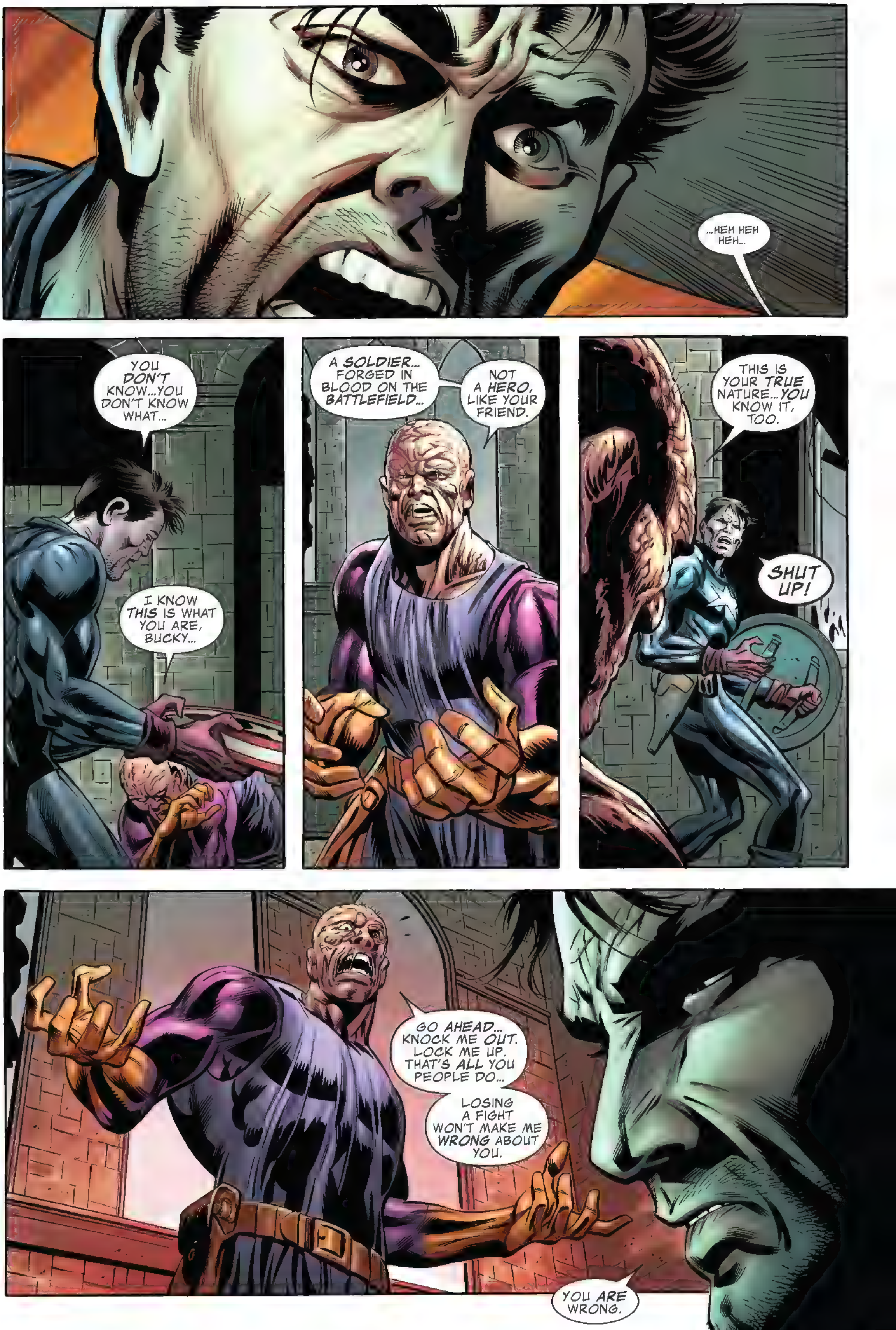

RATATATAT
TO KEEP ME OFF-BALANCE...
BUT HE DOESN'T REALIZE...
...ALL HE'S DONE IS MAKE ME ANGRY.
KA-WHAAM
GUHH--
WELL, THAT'S JUST AS MUCH FUN AS I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WOULD BE...

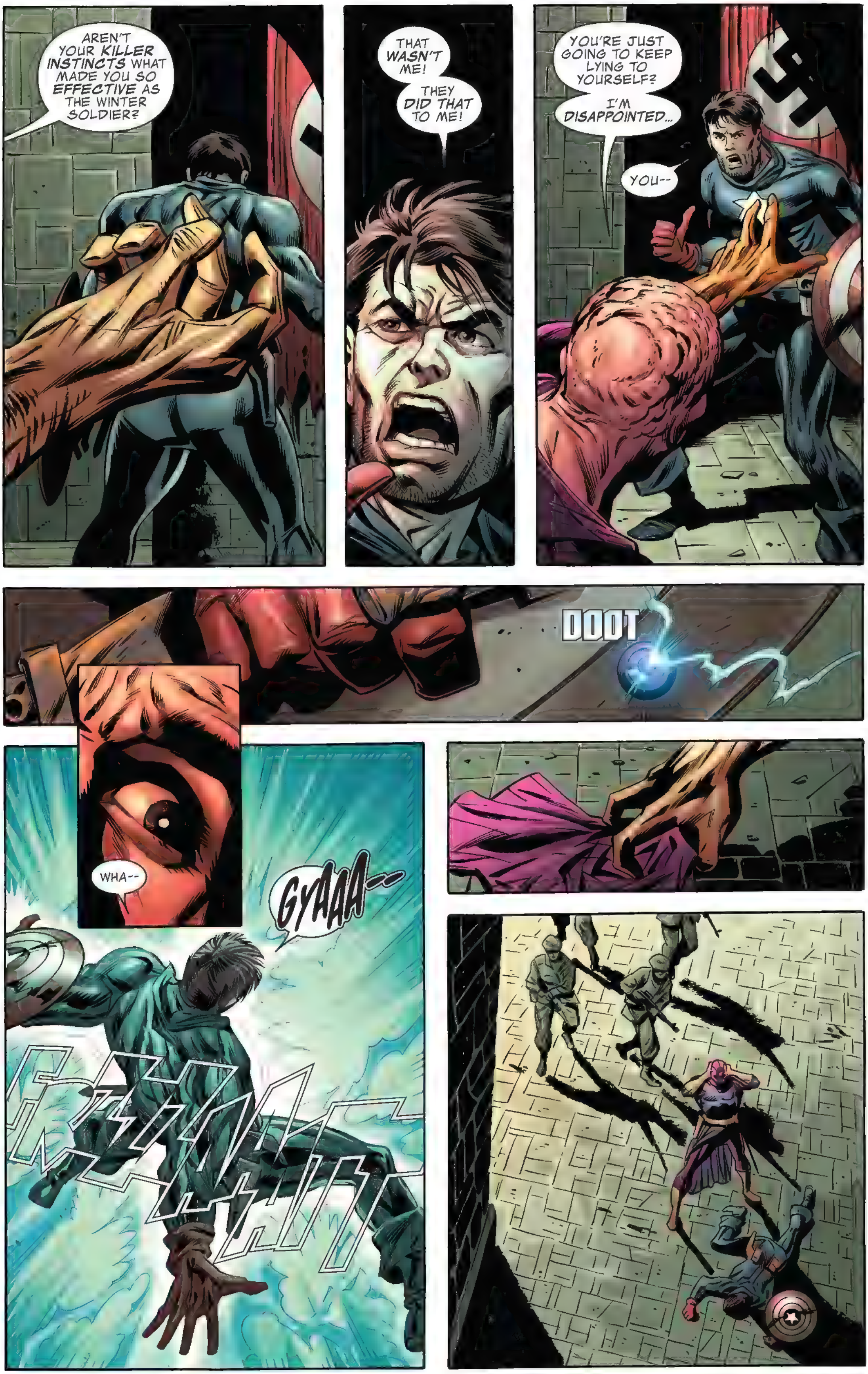

ARE YOU SERIOUSLY ENJOYING YOURSELF?
YOU ACTUALLY SICKER THAN YOUR FATHER, ZEMO?
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO PROVE?!
IF YOU THINK THIS HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH MY FATHER...
BRATATATAT
...YOU'RE DANGEROUSLY MISTAKEN!
NO. THIS IS ALL ABOUT YOU...NEEDING TO BE SHOWN.

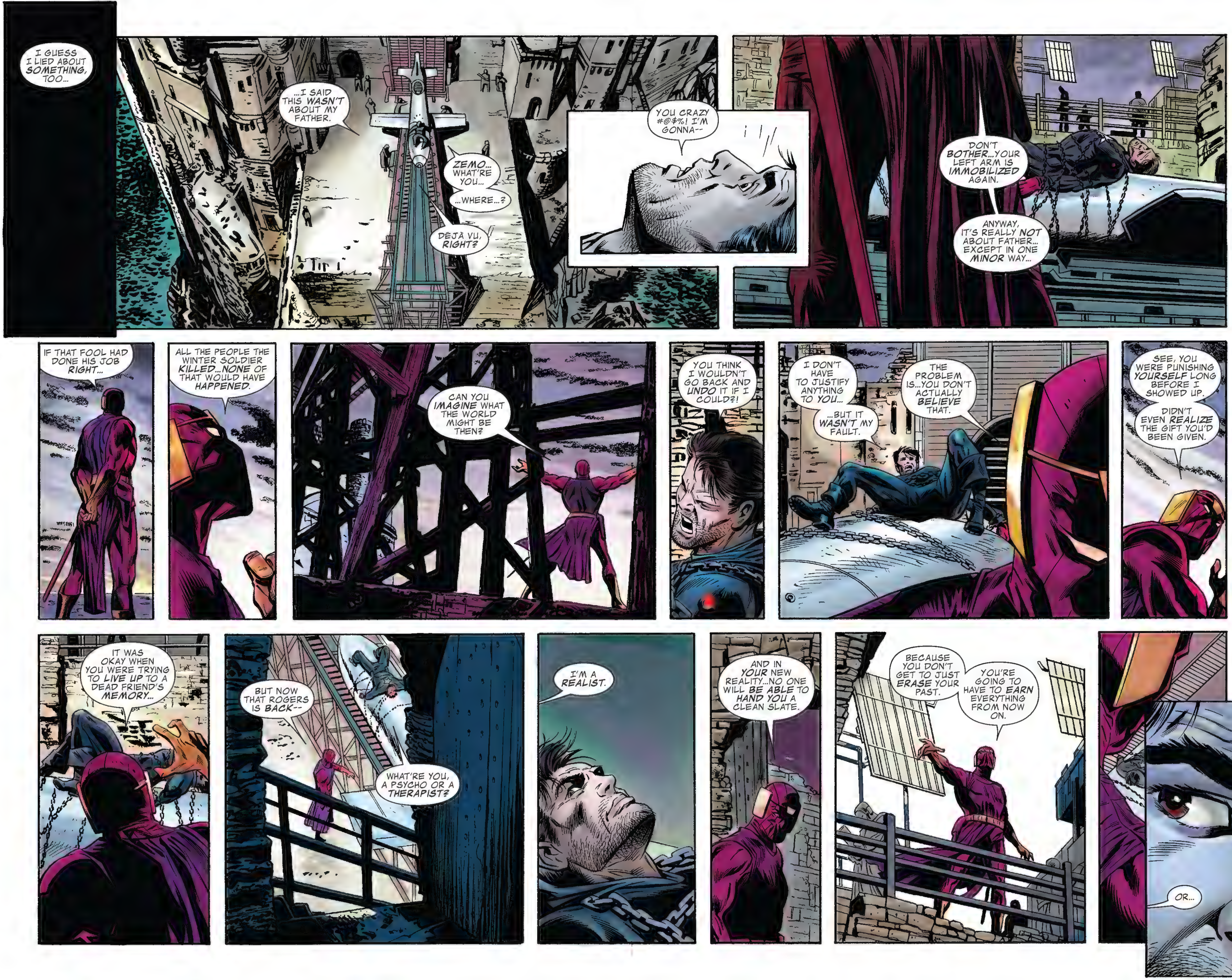

SHOWN WHAT?!
THAT YOU AREN'T BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE...
ROGERS KNOWS THAT, OF COURSE... BUT YOU...
SMAKK
...YOU THINK YOU DESERVE THE SHIELD AND EVERYTHING THAT COMES WITH IT.
KRAK
THAT YOU SHOULD JUST HAVE IT HANDED TO YOU...
REDEMPTION... FOR ALL YOUR CRIMES.
THINK YOU KNOW ME?!

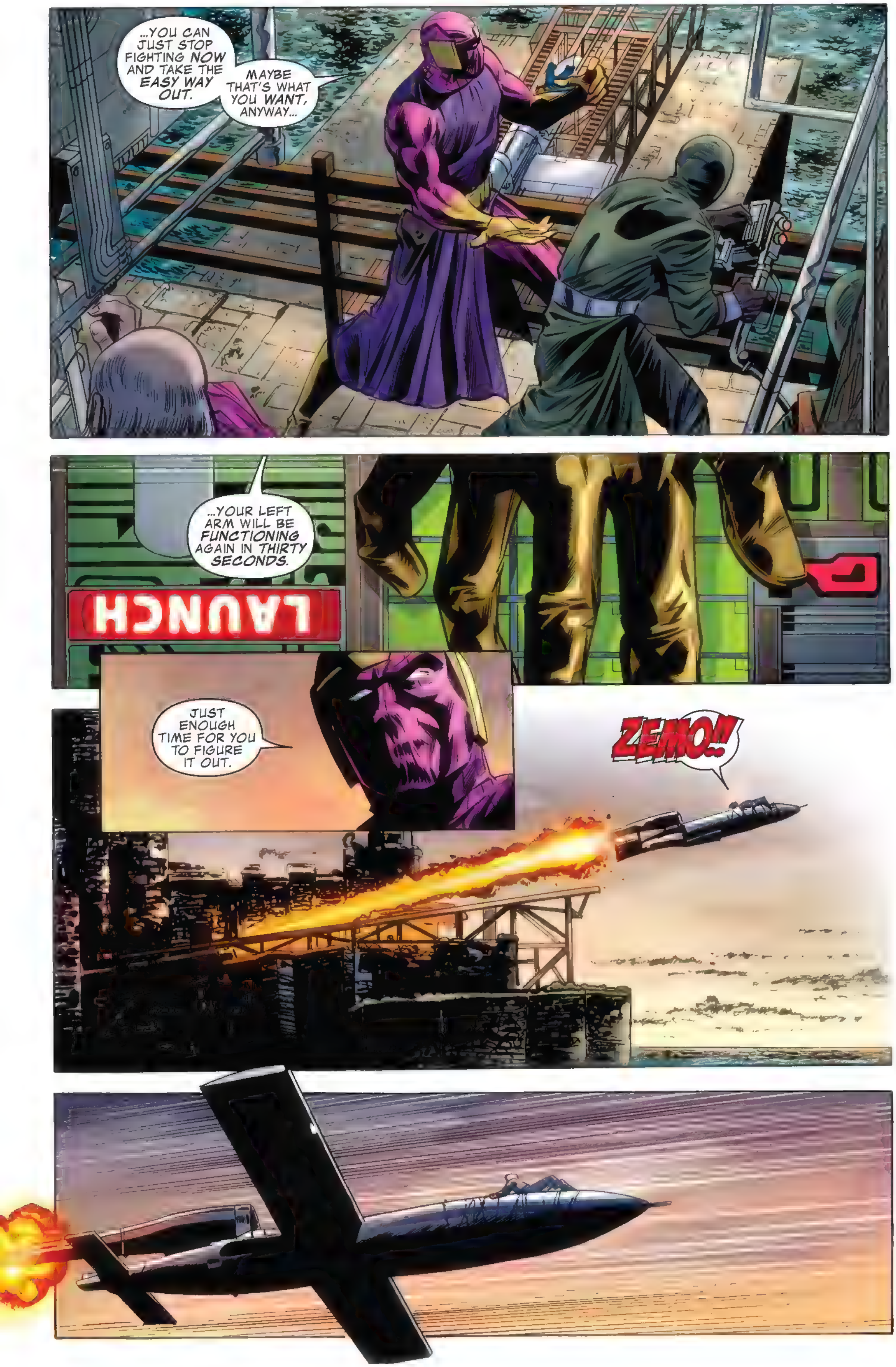

SMASH
YOU GO TO HELL!!
WHAT HAVE YOU EVER DONE--
WHUDD
UKK--!
NO NANOTECH FIBERS *UNDER* YOUR MASK...
...JUST YOUR *UGLY* FACE.
GAH--
CRUNCH
THINK YOU KNOW *ANYTHING* ABOUT ME?!
WHUKK
KRAKK

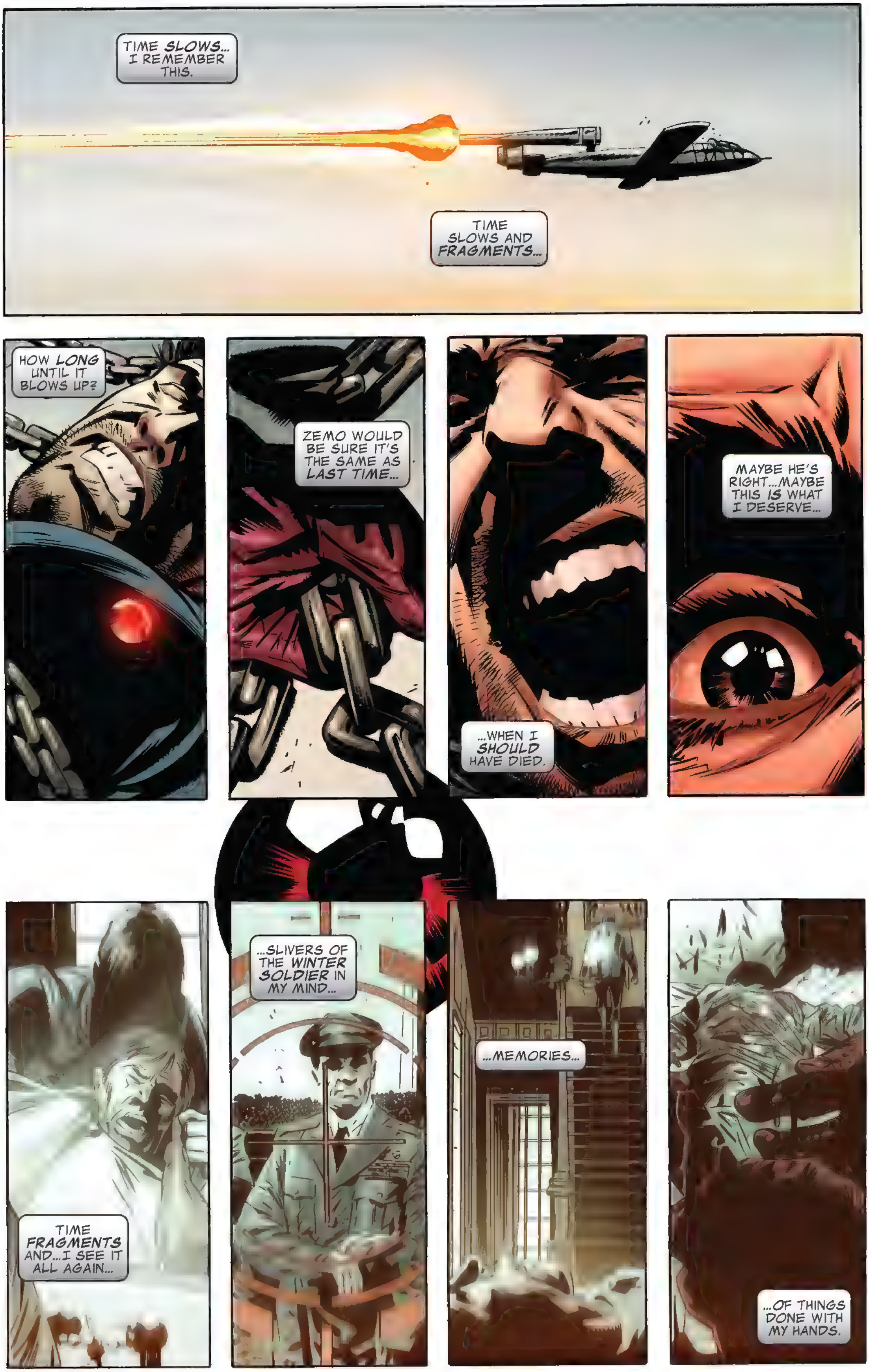

...WHAT HAVE YOU *EVER* DONE...
YOU SON OF A...
SHUT UP!
...TO *EARN* REDEMPTION...?

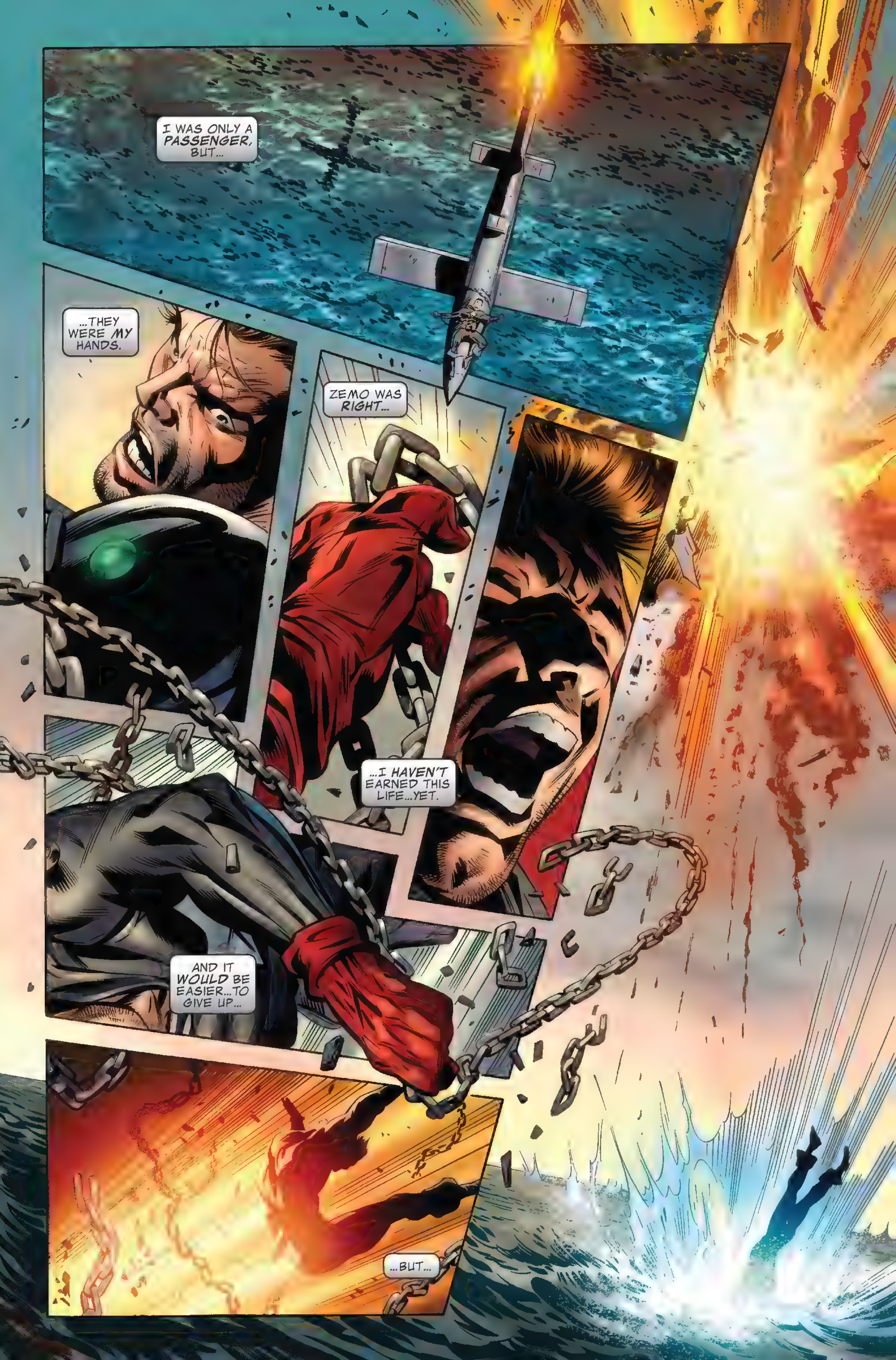

...HEH HEH HEH...
YOU *DON'T* KNOW...YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT...
I KNOW *THIS* IS WHAT YOU ARE, BUCKY...
A *SOLDIER*... FORGED IN BLOOD ON THE *BATTLEFIELD*...
NOT A *HERO*, LIKE YOUR FRIEND.
THIS IS YOUR *TRUE* NATURE...*YOU* KNOW IT, TOO.
SHUT UP!
GO *AHEAD*... KNOCK ME *OUT*. LOCK ME UP. THAT'S *ALL* YOU PEOPLE DO...
LOSING A FIGHT WON'T MAKE ME *WRONG* ABOUT YOU.
YOU *ARE* WRONG.

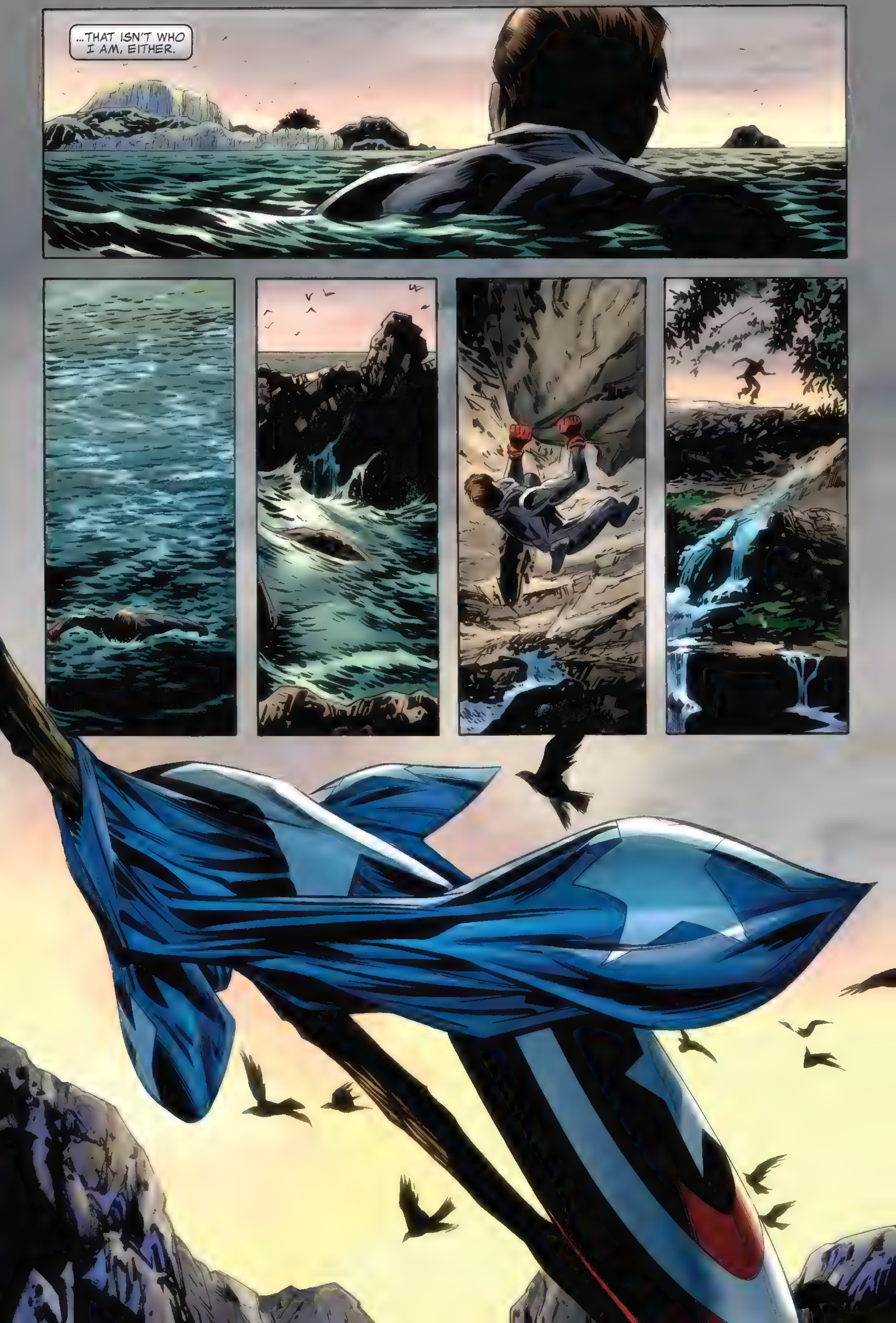

AREN'T YOUR **KILLER INSTINCTS** WHAT MADE YOU SO **EFFECTIVE** AS THE WINTER SOLDIER?
THAT **WASN'T** ME!
THEY **DID THAT** TO ME!
YOU'RE JUST GOING TO KEEP LYING TO YOURSELF?
I'M **DISAPPOINTED...**
YOU--
DOOT
WHA--
GYAAA--

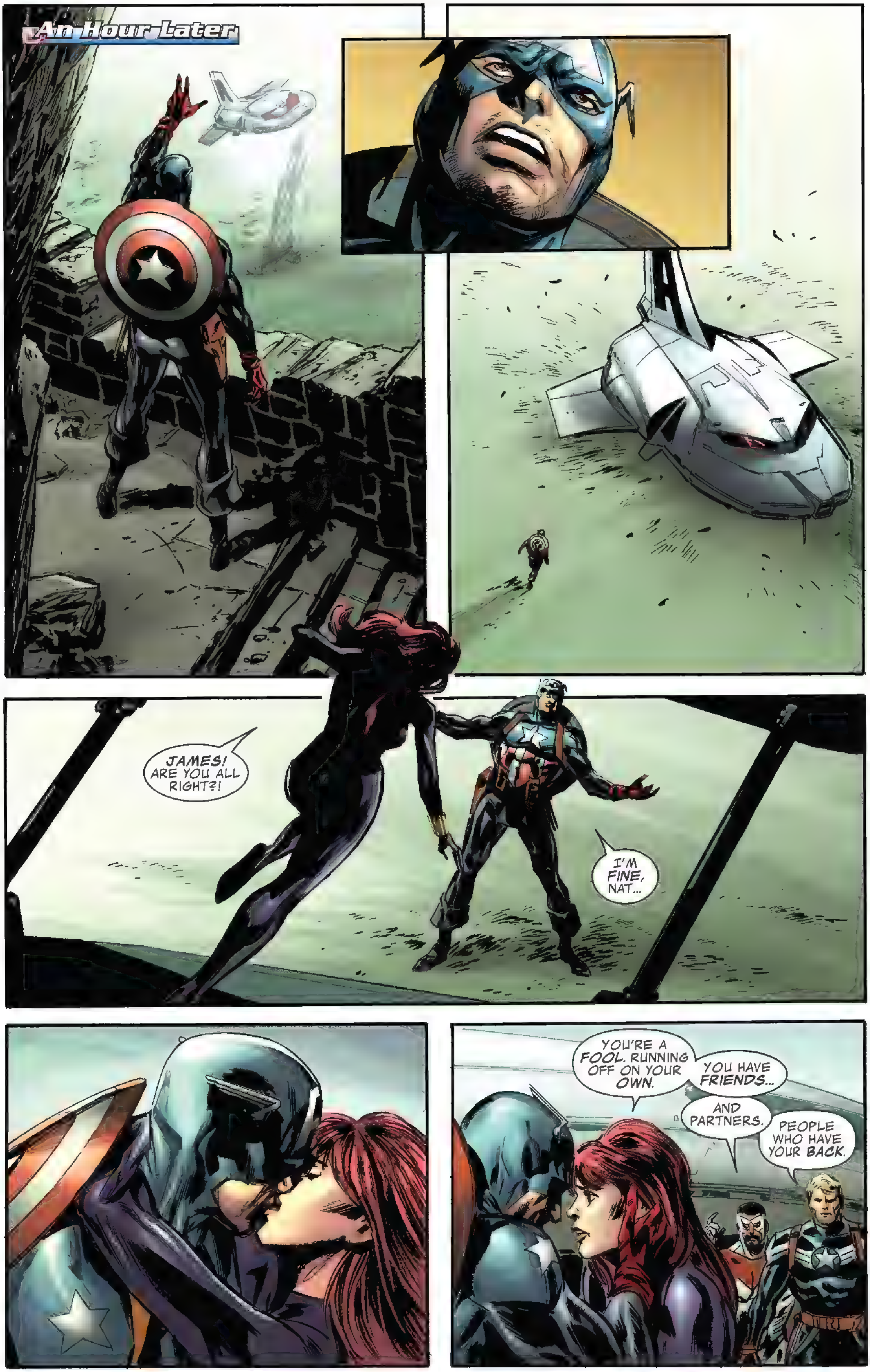

I GUESS I LIED ABOUT *SOMETHING*, TOO...
...I SAID THIS *WASN'T* ABOUT MY FATHER.
ZEMO... WHAT'RE YOU... ...WHERE...?
DÉJÀ VU, *RIGHT?*
YOU CRAZY #@$%! I'M GONNA--
DON'T *BOTHER*...YOUR LEFT ARM IS *IMMOBILIZED* AGAIN.
ANYWAY, IT'S REALLY *NOT* ABOUT FATHER... EXCEPT IN ONE *MINOR* WAY...
IF THAT FOOL HAD DONE HIS JOB *RIGHT*...
ALL THE PEOPLE THE WINTER SOLDIER *KILLED*...*NONE* OF THAT WOULD HAVE *HAPPENED*.
CAN YOU *IMAGINE* WHAT THE WORLD MIGHT BE THEN?
YOU THINK I WOULDN'T GO BACK AND *UNDO* IT IF I COULD?!
I DON'T HAVE TO JUSTIFY ANYTHING TO *YOU*...
...BUT IT *WASN'T* MY FAULT.
THE PROBLEM IS...YOU DON'T ACTUALLY *BELIEVE* THAT.
SEE, YOU WERE PUNISHING *YOURSELF* LONG BEFORE I SHOWED UP.
DIDN'T EVEN *REALIZE* THE GIFT YOU'D BEEN GIVEN.
IT WAS OKAY WHEN YOU WERE TRYING TO *LIVE UP* TO A DEAD FRIEND'S *MEMORY*...
BUT NOW THAT ROGERS IS *BACK*--
WHAT'RE YOU, A PSYCHO OR A *THERAPIST?*
I'M A *REALIST*.
AND IN *YOUR* NEW REALITY...NO ONE WILL *BE ABLE* TO *HAND YOU* A CLEAN SLATE.
BECAUSE YOU DON'T GET TO JUST *ERASE* YOUR PAST.
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO *EARN* EVERYTHING FROM NOW ON.
OR...

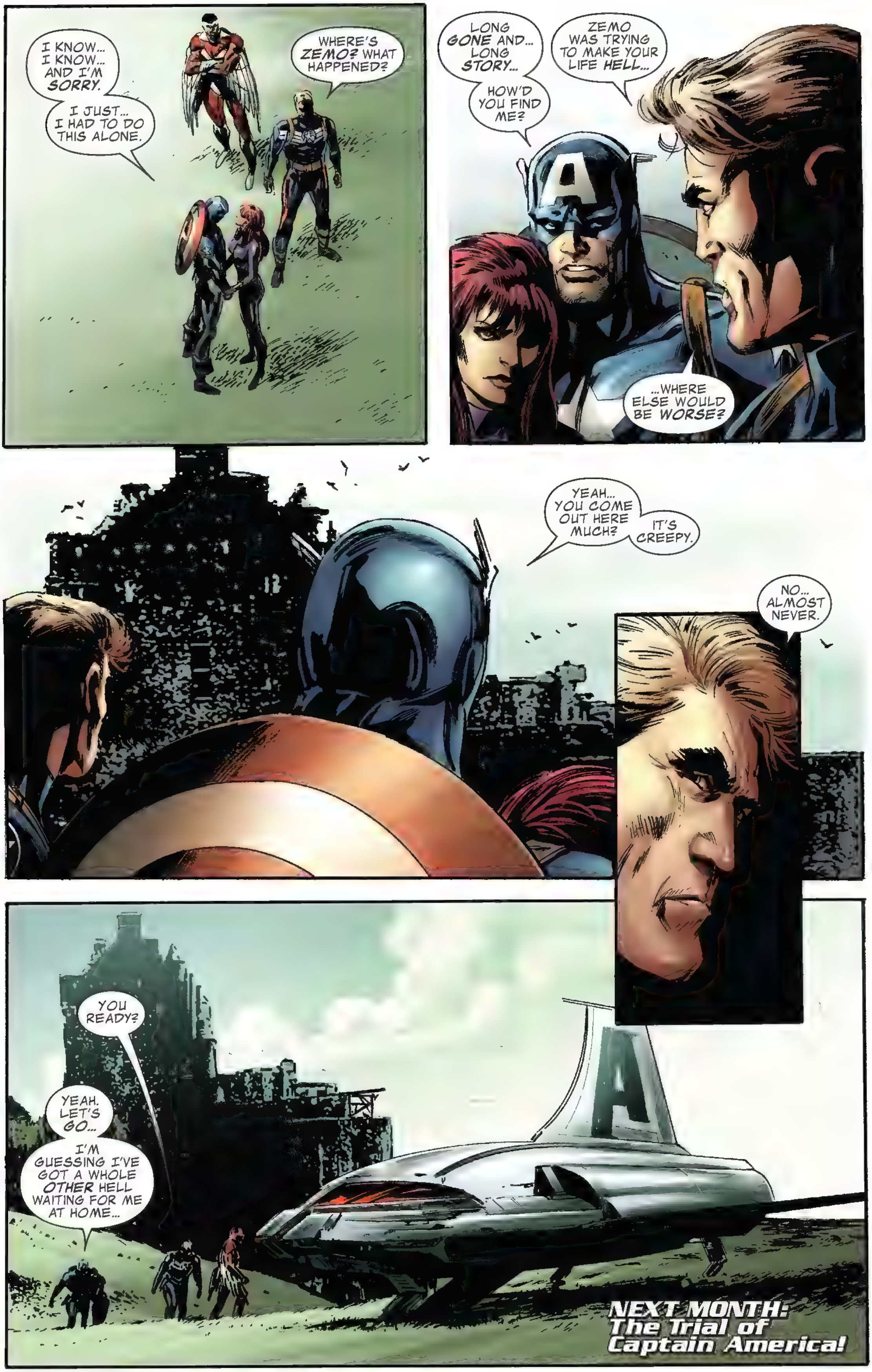

...YOU CAN JUST STOP FIGHTING NOW AND TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT.
MAYBE THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, ANYWAY...
...YOUR LEFT ARM WILL BE FUNCTIONING AGAIN IN THIRTY SECONDS.
LAUNCH
JUST ENOUGH TIME FOR YOU TO FIGURE IT OUT.
ZEMO!!


TIME *SLOWS*... I REMEMBER THIS.
TIME SLOWS AND *FRAGMENTS*...
HOW *LONG* UNTIL IT BLOWS UP?
ZEMO WOULD BE SURE IT'S THE SAME AS *LAST TIME*...
...WHEN I *SHOULD* HAVE DIED.
MAYBE HE'S RIGHT...MAYBE THIS *IS* WHAT I DESERVE...
TIME *FRAGMENTS* AND...I SEE IT ALL AGAIN...
...SLIVERS OF THE *WINTER SOLDIER* IN *MY MIND*...
...*MEMORIES*...
...OF THINGS DONE WITH MY HANDS.


I WAS ONLY A *PASSENGER,* BUT...
...THEY WERE *MY* HANDS.
ZEMO WAS *RIGHT*...
...I *HAVEN'T* EARNED THIS LIFE...YET.
AND IT *WOULD* BE EASIER...TO GIVE UP...
...BUT...


...THAT ISN'T WHO I AM, EITHER.


An Hour Later
JAMES! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
I'M FINE, NAT...
YOU'RE A FOOL. RUNNING OFF ON YOUR OWN.
YOU HAVE FRIENDS...
AND PARTNERS.
PEOPLE WHO HAVE YOUR BACK.


I KNOW... I KNOW... AND I'M SORRY.
I JUST... I HAD TO DO THIS ALONE.
WHERE'S ZEMO? WHAT HAPPENED?
LONG GONE AND... LONG STORY...
HOW'D YOU FIND ME?
ZEMO WAS TRYING TO MAKE YOUR LIFE HELL...
...WHERE ELSE WOULD BE WORSE?
YEAH... YOU COME OUT HERE MUCH?
IT'S CREEPY.
NO... ALMOST NEVER.
YOU READY?
YEAH. LET'S GO...
I'M GUESSING I'VE GOT A WHOLE OTHER HELL WAITING FOR ME AT HOME...
NEXT MONTH: The Trial of Captain America!

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Super-Soldier™

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PROLOGUE
IT STARTED WITH A SCIENTIST.
A WHISTLE-BLOWER WAITING FOR A CONTACT FROM THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT.
WHO SUDDENLY REALIZED HE'D DRIVEN INTO A TRAP...
CLIK
...AS A VOICE TOOK OVER EVERY STATION ON HIS RADIO...
MY DEAR PROFESSOR AMTOWER... YOU DIDN'T THINK WE'D FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOU...?
...AND HIS CAR DOORS REFUSED TO OPEN.
OH GOD-- NO!
DON'T DO THIS!

WHEN THE *FIREMEN* ARRIVED TWENTY MINUTES LATER...
LET ME OUT!!!
...THERE WASN'T MUCH OF HIM *LEFT*.

PART ONE
DINER
ELECTRONIC RADIOS REPAIRS
%OFF
FREE
FREE
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO BE *LOOKING AT* HERE, WISDOM?
THAT *WAS* A POTENTIAL *WITNESS*, FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND.
A SCIENTIST WORKING FOR *NEXTIN* PHARMACEUTICALS... *BEFORE* HE WAS PUT ON A BONFIRE.
NEXTIN? I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THEM.
NO ONE *HAD* UNTIL A YEAR AGO, THEY'RE MAINLY A *RESEARCH* FIRM.
BUT *RECENTLY*, THEY'VE GOTTEN A NEW FIGUREHEAD...
...SOMEONE CALLING HIMSELF *PROFESSOR JACOB ERSKINE.*
NEXTIN
ERSKINE? BUT...PROFESSOR ERSKINE DIDN'T *HAVE* A SON.
YES...THIS IS APPARENTLY A *GRANDSON*, TAKING BACK THE *FAMILY NAME.*
HIS MOTHER WAS YOUR PROFESSOR ERSKINE'S ESTRANGED *DAUGHTER*, ESME...

...AND HIS *FATHER* WAS CALLED *TYLER PAXTON*, WHO IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, *YOU* WERE ACQUAINTED WITH?
PETE WISDOM WAS *RIGHT*, BUT THEN, BRITISH SPY-MASTERS GENERALLY DO THEIR RESEARCH.
I KNEW TYLER PAXTON FROM THE SAME PLACE I KNEW PROFESSOR ERSKINE... *PROJECT: REBIRTH.*
HEY, I'M TYLER...NICE TO MEET *ANOTHER* BEAN-POLE...
STEVE... *STEVE ROGERS...*
TYLER WAS ONE OF THE *OTHER* TEST SUBJECTS FOR THE *SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM.*
WE WERE, ALL OF US, MEANT TO BE THE *FIRST WAVE* OF A *NEW ARMY.*
I WAS SELECTED TO GO *FIRST*, TAKING THE FORMULA...
...WHILE A *NAZI SPY* WAITED TO STRIKE FROM THE OBSERVATION BOOTH.

BUT WHEN PROFESSOR ERSKINE *DIED*, PART OF HIS *SECRET FORMULA* DIED WITH HIM...
NOOOO!
BLAM BLAM
...SO THERE WOULD ONLY BE *ONE* SUPER-SOLDIER...ONE *CAPTAIN AMERICA.*
YEAH, TYLER PAXTON WAS A FRIEND OF MINE... A *LONG* TIME AGO.
WELL, IT TURNS OUT YOUR *FRIEND* MET ERSKINE'S *DAUGHTER* AT A *MEMORIAL* FOR THE OLD MAN...
...AND *THEIR* SON TOOK AFTER HIS *GRANDFATHER*...AN UTTER SCIENTIFIC *GENIUS.*
AS *JACOB PAXTON* HE WAS ON S.H.I.E.L.D. AND MI:13'S *HIRE LIST* RIGHT OUT OF UNIVERSITY, BUT HE REFUSED US BOTH...

HE'S BEEN RESEARCHING *NONINFECTIOUS DISEASES* THE PAST TWENTY YEARS.
AND NOW HE'S GOING BY *ERSKINE?*
YES, AND IT APPEARS THERE WAS A *REASON* FOR THAT NAME CHANGE... TO ATTRACT *CUSTOMERS...*
...BECAUSE FROM WHAT I CAN GATHER ABOUT THIS DEAD *WHISTLE-BLOWER,* HE WAS SAYING NEXTIN HAD *CRACKED* THE *SUPER-SOLDIER FORMULA.*
AND THEY'RE PLANNING TO *SELL IT* TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER *OVERSEAS.*
WHAT? THAT'S... THAT'S INSANE...
YES. IMAGINE IT... *EVERY SOLDIER* IN LATVERIA, EVERY *SUICIDE BOMBER* IN BAGHDAD...
ALL OF THEM COULD SOON BE *JUST LIKE YOU...*
DAMN IT...
SO AS FAR AS MY SUPERIORS KNOW, I WAS NEVER *HERE,* AND WE NEVER *HAD* THIS CONVERSATION...
...BUT I THOUGHT THIS WAS SOMETHING YOU'D WANT TO *KNOW.*

AND *THAT* IS HOW I ENDED UP IN ***MADRIPOOR.***
LOOKING INTO WISDOM'S *INTEL,* I FOUND OUT ***NEXTIN PHARMA*** WAS HOLDING A GALA FOR SHAREHOLDERS IN MADRIPOOR'S ***HIGHTOWN DISTRICT.***
WHICH WOULD BE A PERFECT PLACE TO MEET ***SECRETLY*** WITH INTERNATIONAL BUYERS...
...SINCE THIS ISLAND *NATION* WAS ONE OF THE MORE CORRUPT PLACES IN THE WORLD.
HOTEL
BUT NEXTIN MADE IT FAIRLY *OBVIOUS* THEIR PARTY WAS A ***COVER.***

THEY RENTED OUT THE *ENTIRE* SOVEREIGN HOTEL AND PUT *ARMED SECURITY DETAILS* ON THE ENTRANCES AND EXITS.
SO AS MUCH AS I DON'T WANT WISDOM TO BE *RIGHT* ABOUT THIS...
...IT LOOKS LIKE JACOB ERSKINE REALLY *IS* ABOUT TO BETRAY THE DREAMS OF HIS FATHER AND GRANDFATHER.

MY PLAN IS SIMPLE... INFILTRATE THE *GALA*, FIND *ERSKINE*, AND SHAKE SOME DAMN *SENSE* INTO HIM.
THERE'S ALSO A *PLAN B*, WHICH INCLUDES A POSSIBLE *INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT*...
...BUT I'M *HOPING* IT WON'T COME TO THAT.

AFTER AN HOUR OF IDLE CHATTER...
OUR GENIUS *C.E.O.?* I'M SURE HE'S HERE *SOMEWHERE...*
THANKS.
--HEAR HE'S GOING TO BE MAKING A *BIG ANNOUNCEMENT* THIS WEEKEND...
REALLY? GUESS I MISSED *THAT* SHAREHOLDERS E-MAIL.
...I FINALLY SPOT THE *MAN OF THE HOUR.*
UP ON THE *V.I.P. LEVEL,* BEHIND EVEN *MORE* SECURITY.
I'M MAPPING MY WAY *PAST THEM* WHEN I SEE SOMETHING *ELSE...*
...OR SOME*ONE* ELSE...
...WHAT THE HELL...?
...ERSKINE'S *WIFE.*

AND SUDDENLY 1941 DOESN'T SEEM SO LONG AGO.
OH, STEVE... I WISH WE COULD JUST *STAY* LIKE THIS...
...JUST *FORGET* THE WAR...
MY MIND *MUST* BE PLAYING TRICKS ON ME...
...IT *CAN'T* BE HER...
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT *PROJECT: REBIRTH* AND MY EARLY DAYS AS *CAP* TOO MUCH...
...THERE'S JUST A STRONG *RESEMBLANCE*... IT ISN'T *REALLY* HER...
THAT'S WHAT I TELL MYSELF...BUT I KNOW IN *MY* WORLD, ALMOST ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.
SO I MOVE ON TO *PLAN C...*WHICH I'M MAKING UP AS I GO ALONG.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WE HAD A *SECURITY BREACH?*
OKAY, YES... I *UNDERSTAND*, BUT ISN'T THAT WHAT I PAY *YOU* FOR?
NO...NO... DON'T CHANGE THE MEETING. IT'S TOO *IMPORTANT*...
JUST HANDLE THE PROBLEM...
PFFT PFFT
UTT--
OKAY... LET'S SEE... SECURITY PASSES...
...BUT *NO* ELEVATOR KEYS... DAMN...

...GUESS I'M TAKING THE STAIRS.
EMERGENCY EXIT
ACCORDING TO HOTEL RECORDS, NEXTIN HAS TEMPORARY CONTROL OF THE TOP THREE FLOORS.
SO I EXPECT I'LL FIND ERSKINE IN THE *PENTHOUSE,* ONE FLOOR UP FROM THE V.I.P. GYM...
GYMNASIUM RESTRICTED ACCESS
GYMNASIUM RESTRICTED ACCESS
...BUT FOR THE *SECOND TIME* TONIGHT, IT'S WHAT I'M *NOT* EXPECTING THAT'S THE PROBLEM...
LET ME GUESS...
YOU'RE THE SECURITY BREACH OUR BOSS TOLD US TO FIND.

WHAMM
TOO BAD FOR YOU, GUY--
FAST.
WAY TOO FAST FOR THEIR SIZE.
KRAKK
KRAKK
DAMN IT, I'M TOO LATE ALREADY...

...NEXTIN IS ALREADY *USING* THE SUPER-SOLDIER FORMULA.
ON THEIR OWN PEOPLE.
I *TRY* TO MAINTAIN CONTROL... BUT MY ANGER BOILS OVER.
SMAAK
HOW COULD THE *HEIR* TO THE MAN WHO *CREATED ME* BE SO STUPID?
KA-WHUUD
DOESN'T HE *KNOW* HOW DANGEROUS EXPERIMENTING WITH THAT SERUM IS?

OUT OF *ALL* THE MEN WHO'VE TAKEN IT, I'M THE *ONLY ONE* IT'S EVER WORKED ON.
GAAH--
WHAAAM
THE ONLY TIMES IT'S EVEN COME *CLOSE* WITH ANYONE ELSE IT'S DRIVEN THEM *MAD...*
YOU SON OF A--
--A...
...OR *WORSE.*
...OW...MY HEAD...
...*REALLY* HURTS...
TOMMY?!
WHUUUD

SMAAK
KRAAK
RAAAAHH--
NOPE.
SKRASH

I HAVE *TOO MANY* REASONS TO BE ANGRY RIGHT NOW.
THIS NIGHT HAS SOMEHOW GONE FROM *"SECRET MISSION"* TO "STEVE ROGERS' PERSONAL NIGHTMARE."
FIRST *HER*... AND NOW THESE MEN...
...AND THIS ONE WHO JUST HAD SOME KIND OF ***ANEURISM.***
THE DEVICE *HANK McCOY* MADE TESTS HIS BLOOD, JUST TO BE SURE...
...BUT I ALREADY *KNOW* WHAT I'LL FIND THERE.
DAMN IT ALL TO HELL...
I ALREADY KNOW WHAT ***KILLED*** HIM...

...AND I WON'T LET IT CONTINUE.
YOU CAN STOP MOVING THROUGH THE SHADOWS, CAPTAIN...
...I WAS HOPING WE'D FINALLY MEET WHEN I HEARD THERE WAS A BREACH IN OUR SECURITY...
AND YOU'VE GOT A BREACH IN YOUR ETHICS, TOO, APPARENTLY.
HOLD ON, YOU'VE GOT NO--
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS? ARE YOU OUT FOR REVENGE BECAUSE OF YOUR FATHER?
BECAUSE I WAS THE ONE GIVEN THE FORMULA AND NOT HIM?
REVENGE?
DON'T INSULT MY FAMILY...

DO YOU THINK YOU'RE THE ONLY *HERO* IN THE WORLD, ROGERS?
"WHILE YOU WERE FIGHTING NAZIS IN THE *TRENCHES* AND STARRING IN CAPTAIN AMERICA *NEWSREELS*...
"...MY *FATHER* WAS WORKING FOR *MILITARY INTELLIGENCE*, CRACKING GERMAN *CODES*.
"HE NEVER RESENTED YOU FOR A *SECOND*..."
...HE WAS THE *REAL* HERO.
THEN WHY DID YOU STOP USING THE MAN'S *NAME*?
WHY DO YOU *THINK*?
I TOOK MY *MOTHER'S NAME* SO I COULD GET *YOUR* ATTENTION.

WELL, YOU *GOT* IT.
TRYING TO SELL THE *SUPER-SOLDIER FORMULA* TO AMERICA'S *ENEMIES*--
WHAT? I'M *NOT* DOING THAT...
NO...I *PERFECTED* MY GRANDFATHER'S FORMULA, BUT *NOT* TO MAKE MORE *WAR*...
I'M GOING TO USE IT TO *CURE CANCER.*
BUT I NEED *YOUR* HELP TO DO THAT. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE THE SERUM--
JUST STOP. I DON'T BELIEVE A *WORD* YOU SAY...
NOT *ONLY* WAS YOUR SECURITY SQUAD *ALL* DOSED WITH THAT SERUM...
...BUT YOUR *WIFE* LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE A WOMAN I WATCHED DIE *SEVENTY YEARS AGO!*
WHAT IS YOUR *GAME,* ERSKINE?!
MY *WIFE--?* WHAT ARE YOU *TALKING* ABOUT?
WAIT-- MY MEN WERE GIVEN THE *SUPER-SOLDIER FORMULA?*
OH GOD, MY *HEAD OF SECURITY*...HE *COULDN'T* BE...

THEN IT HAPPENS...THE NIGHTMARE GETS WORSE.
...HUHH...
I NEVER *HEAR* THE SHOT...BUT BY THE TIME I HEAR THE *GLASS* BREAKING...
NO!
...IT'S ALREADY *TOO LATE.*
ANOTHER PROFESSOR ERSKINE IS DYING IN MY ARMS...
...AND I HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT IS GOING ON.
TO BE CONTINUED...

CARLOS PACHECO 2010
TOWNSEND
fgd

THE HEROIC AGE™

MARVEL

LIMITED SERIES
2 OF 4

STEVE★ROGERS

Super-Soldier™

BRUBAKER ★ EAGLESHAM ★ TROY

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AFTER JACOB ERSKINE *FALLS*, THE GUNFIRE KEEPS COMING.
HIGH VELOCITY ROUNDS SHATTERING BULLETPROOF GLASS LIKE IT'S NOTHING.
BUT IT'S JUST FOR *SHOW*...
...BECAUSE WE'RE *BOTH* OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE...
KSSH
...AND ERSKINE IS *ALREADY* DYING.
...LISTEN... YOU'VE GOT TO...
...LISTEN...
I'M HERE.

...MY *WIFE*... PROTECT MY WIFE...
...SHE... THEY'LL COME AFTER *HER* NOW...
...IF SMITH'S DONE IT...IF HE...
...*PROTECT* HER... ANITA DOESN'T DESERVE...
...DESERVE...

THE GUNFIRE'S STOPPED BUT...
DAMN IT TO HELL.
...I HEAR SECURITY RUSHING DOWN THE CORRIDOR.
HEAVY FOOTFALLS... HALF A DOZEN ARMED MEN.
I HAVE NO TIME TO SORT OUT WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED.
NOT FROM IN HERE AT LEAST.

FOR A MOMENT I'M REALLY WISHING I'D HELD ONTO THAT GRAPPLE-GUN...
...BUT ITS CABLE WOULDN'T HAVE REACHED THE GROUND ANYWAY.
AND IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVEN'T DONE THIS BEFORE.
JUST HAVE TO SLOW MY FALL...

...AS MUCH AS I CAN.
AH, HELL...
KRRPPP
SHODDY MADRIPOOR WORKMANSHIP...
SPSSSH

I CAN ALREADY HEAR SIRENS SQUEALING MY WAY IN THE DISTANCE...
PLACE'LL BE SWARMING WITH POLICE ANY SECOND.
HAVE TO IGNORE THE NOISE.
FOCUS...
WHERE WAS THAT SNIPER'S NEST?
THERE.

BUT THE SHOOTER IS LONG GONE, AND FROM THE REMOTE SETUP I FIND...
...HE MAY NOT HAVE BEEN HERE AT ALL.
SO I'VE GOT NOTHING TO GO ON.
EXCEPT THE LAST WORDS OF A GOOD MAN...
MAD
...AND A WHOLE HELL OF A LOT OF SUSPICION.

SKKRAASHH
BUT I DON'T MAKE *DECISIONS* BASED ON SUSPICION.
SO I SCOUR THE MADRIPOOR *UNDERWORLD* THAT NIGHT.
I SWEAR... I DON'T KNOW *ANYTHING...*
I'D *TELL YA* IF I DID... I *SWEAR...*
AND MADRIPOOR HAS EVEN MORE DARK CORNERS THAN I REMEMBERED.
BUT THAT'S WHERE I SHOULD FIND ANSWERS.

BECAUSE *SOMEONE* HIRED A HITMAN FOR THIS JOB...
I WANT A *NAME*... THAT'S ALL I WANT...
I'M JUST A *BAGMAN*... I DON'T KNOW ANYONE...
EVEN IF THE MAN THEY *HIRED* DID IT *REMOTELY*.
WE CAN DO THIS THE *EASY* WAY...OR THE *HARD* WAY...
IT MAKES *NO DIFFERENCE* TO ME...
SOMEONE IN THIS CITY WILL KNOW WHO WAS HIRED...
...I'M *ALREADY* IN A BAD MOOD.

...IF THIS HITTER IS A *LOCAL.*
LISTEN...I'M *NOT* MESSING AROUND HERE...
IF *ANYONE* ON OUR CIRCUIT TOOK THIS GIG, I'D *KNOW* ABOUT IT...
IF THIS GIG WAS EVEN *FLOATED,* I'D KNOW...
AND I *NEVER* HEARD A WORD.
NOT A *WORD.*
SO GO BACK TO YOUR *BLACK AND WHITE WORLD* AND LEAVE US THE HELL ALONE...
99
AND IF THE HITMAN *WASN'T* A LOCAL?
THEN MY SUSPICION THAT IT'S AN *INSIDE JOB...*

...BECOMES A HELL OF A LOT *MORE LIKELY.*
SHARON, I NEED EVERYTHING YOU CAN FIND ON A *MYRON SMITH...* HEAD OF SECURITY FOR *NEXTIN.*
BREAK INTO CLASSIFIED FILES... WHATEVER YOU NEED TO DO...
TELECOM
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WHERE *ARE* YOU?
I JUST SAW THE NEWS ABOUT *JACOB ERSKINE...*
AT ONE OF *WOLVERINE'S* SAFE HOUSES...AND I'M *FINE,* JUST ANGRY.
I WAS LOOKING IN THE *WRONG DIRECTION* THIS ENTIRE MISSION.
DO YOU WANT SOME *BACK-UP?*
SCIENTIST ASSASSINATED ON EVE O
NO... THIS IS...
SCIENTIST ASSASSINATED ON EVE O
...SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO ON MY *OWN.*

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO TELL HER?
"THERE'S A WOMAN INVOLVED IN THIS CASE THAT LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE A WOMAN I USED TO LOVE?"
LIEUTENANT CYNTHIA GLASS, WHO WAS THERE THE FIRST DAY I WALKED INTO THE SUPER-SOLDIER EXPERIMENT.
I UNDERSTAND YOU TRIED TO ENLIST NEARLY A DOZEN TIMES, ROGERS...
IMPRESSIVE.
I JUST WANT TO DO MY PART, MA'AM...
CYNTHIA, WHO WAS SECRETLY A NAZI SPY... BUT WHO DIED SAVING ME, IN DEFIANCE OF HER SUPERIORS.
NOOO!
THE FIRST LOVE I EVER LOST.

SO WHAT WOULD I SAY TO SHARON?
HER *FIRST INSTINCT* WOULD BE THE SAME AS MINE...
THAT IT *CAN'T* BE HER. THAT IT'S A SET-UP. THAT I'M BEING *PLAYED*.
BUT IF SO, THEN WHAT'S THEIR *GAME?*
ERSKINE IS DEAD, AND HIS KILLER ALREADY *HAS* THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM.
WHY HAUNT ME WITH MY PAST?

SO ALL I'M LEFT WITH ARE JACOB ERSKINE'S *LAST WORDS...*
THAT HIS *WIFE* IS IN DANGER.
AND HIS IMPLICATION THAT HIS *HEAD OF SECURITY* WAS ATTEMPTING A CORPORATE *COUP...*
...AND PLANNING TO SELL THE *SERUM* ON THE BLACK MARKET.
I *COULD* RUSH INTO THIS PLACE THEY'RE HOLING-UP...
NEXTIN'S CORPORATE *RETREAT*, ACCORDING TO RECORDS...
BUT THAT *DOESN'T* GIVE ME THE FORMULA, AND IT DOESN'T *PROTECT* ANITA ERSKINE.
SO, HOW *DO* I PLAY THIS...?
BE SMART, STEVE...BE SMART...

BUT THE FACT IS, I'M NOT SMART TONIGHT... I'M HAUNTED.
HI, IT'S ANITA, RIGHT? ANITA ERSKINE?
DO... I KNOW YOU?
ARE YOU OKAY?
YES...WELL, NO...THESE PILLS THEY GAVE ME, TO RELAX...
MY HUSBAND WAS KILLED LAST NIGHT...
YES, I KNOW. I'M SORRY.
THIS...IT'S SO WEIRD...I SWEAR I KNOW YOU.
I MEAN... I THINK I DREAM ABOUT YOU... SOMETIMES...
DOES THAT MAKE SENSE? IT DOESN'T... DOES IT?

WHO ARE YOU?
I'M STEVE ROGERS. YOUR HUSBAND ASKED ME TO--
STEVE ROGERS.
MY GOD... IT'S...THIS IS SO STRANGE... LIKE DEJĀ VU OR...
I KNOW YOU... I DO.
WE USED TO BE IN LOVE.
THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE.
WE USED TO...
IS IT?

WAIT-- STOP...I'M WITH SOMEONE, AND YOU AREN'T...
THIS ISN'T REAL. IT CAN'T BE.
OH GOD... WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO ME?
WHY ARE YOU IN MY HEAD?
WAIT!
STEVE, I'VE GOT THE INTEL YOU WANTED ON NEXTIN'S HEAD OF SECURITY.
SHARON? I...WHAT...?
IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?
I'M JUST...IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING...
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT ON SMITH?
MYRON SMITH. I'VE GOT THE INTEL ON HIM.

THAT'S THE THING... THERE *IS* NO MYRON SMITH...
HIS RECORDS ARE *ALL* FORGED... UNTIL A YEAR AGO, MYRON SMITH DIDN'T *EXIST*.
HE JOINED NEXTIN JUST BEFORE JACOB ERSKINE CHANGED HIS NAME AND GOT *MARRIED*...
EVERYTHING ABOUT HIM BEFORE *THAT* DAY IS A COMPLETE *FABRICATION*.
OKAY... THANKS. I'VE GOT IT FROM HERE.
BECAUSE *RIGHT THEN* I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON...*FINALLY*.
THE REMOTE ASSASSIN. THE SCIENTIST KILLED BY HIS CAR. THE NAME *MYRON SMITH*.
AH, MR. ROGERS...OR IS IT CAPTAIN ROGERS?
I *KNOW* WHO I'M DEALING WITH.
IT'S *COMMANDER* ROGERS, ACTUALLY.

AND YOU CAN DROP THE ACT NOW, SMITH. I KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
WAIT, YOU KNOW MYRON?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
SHUT HER OFF.
IT'S A CRUEL JOKE, EVEN FOR YOU.
BUT DON'T YOU RESPECT THE CRAFTSMANSHIP?
TK!
IT ACTUALLY BELIEVES IT'S HUMAN...
THAT'S WHY IT'S CRUEL.
NOW STOP THE GAMES AND SHOW YOURSELF...

...MACHINESMITH.
OH, I WILL... ROGERS.
AND I'LL DO A LOT MORE THAN THAT.
SHUUNKK

THINK I'M AFRAID TO BE TRAPPED? YOU GOT THAT WRONG.
SO LET'S DO THIS...
YOU WANT A FIGHT, YOU'VE GOT IT, YOU TWISTED BASTARD.
NOW, WHO ON EARTH SAID I WANTED A FIGHT?
YAAAAAIIIEEEEE--
I'M NOT A NEANDERTHAL, AFTER ALL.
--AAAAAHHHHH...
...WHAT ARE YOU... DOING...?

I'M DEACTIVATING THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM INSIDE YOU AND BRINGING YOU DOWN TO SIZE, COMMANDER...
HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?
TO BE CONTINUED...

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FOR A LOT OF MY CHILDHOOD, I REALLY ONLY HAD ONE *CONSTANT COMPANION.*
FEAR.
'ERE HE *COMES!*
A SICKLY KID FROM NEW YORK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE *GREAT DEPRESSION* COULD KNOW *FEW THINGS* MORE INTIMATELY.
GET THE BEAN-POLE!
GET 'IM!
BECAUSE CHILDREN ARE *ALWAYS* TOO EASILY CRUEL.
SKINNY LITTLE CREEP!
AND CHILDREN WITH *NOTHING* CAN BE LIKE SAVAGES.
CREAM 'IM!

I STILL REMEMBER THE DREAD AND FEAR I FELT...
...JUST TRYING TO GET HOME FROM SCHOOL.
I CAN STILL FEEL THE HELPLESSNESS.
WISHING I WAS STRONG.
WISHING I COULD FIGHT.
WISHING I WAS ANYONE BUT SCARED, SKINNY, SICKLY LITTLE STEVE ROGERS...

THERE'S NO POINT IN *RESISTING,* ROGERS...ALTHOUGH IT IS AMUSING TO *WATCH...*
IT *MUST* BE FRUSTRATING, THE BIG, STRONG *SUPER-SOLDIER* SUDDENLY *SO* WEAK...
YOU'RE LIKE A *CHILD* AGAIN...
HAVE TO REMEMBER TO HAVE ONE OF MY MEN KICK *SAND* IN YOUR FACE BEFORE WE *FINISH UP.*
LET ME OFF THIS *TABLE* AND THEY'RE WELCOME TO TRY...
ALL IN GOOD TIME, ROGERS...
ALL IN GOOD TIME.

I CAN'T BE DAMAGING YOU BEFORE WE HAVE WHAT WE *NEED*...
MY BLOOD *WON'T* HELP YOU...OTHERS HAVE *TRIED THAT* BEFORE.
TRUE, BUT NO ONE *QUITE* AS INGENIOUS AS ME.
I HADN'T SEEN OR HEARD OF THE *MACHINESMITH* IN YEARS.
HE HAD ONCE BEEN A BRILLIANT SCIENTIST, A *LEADER* IN THE FIELD OF *ROBOTICS* AND *NANOTECHNOLOGY*...
...BUT WHEN HE DIED, HIS CONSCIOUSNESS WAS TRANSFERRED INTO A MACHINE...A DIGITAL *THOUGHT PATTERN* BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE.
NO... WHAT...HAVE YOU *DONE* TO ME...?
HE WAS LIKE THE *INTERNET*, TRAVELLING AT HIGH SPEED FROM MACHINE TO MACHINE...
...ONLY SLIGHTLY MORE *EVIL*.

AND NOW HE HAD *INFILTRATED* AND TAKEN OVER *NEXTIN PHARMACEUTICALS.*
YOU SEE, JACOB HAD *ALREADY* DONE MOST OF THE WORK...
...*PERFECTING* HIS GRANDFATHER'S SERUM.
HE WANTED TO CURE *CANCER,* NOT CREATE MORE SUPER-SOLDIERS...
BUT THE SERUM HAD TO BE *TESTED* BEFORE IT COULD BE *EXPANDED* UPON.
AND OUR SUBJECTS, THE *MICE* JACOB KNEW ABOUT, AND THE *MEN* HE DIDN'T...
...WERE *UNSTABLE,* AT BEST.
YOU WERE THE *ONLY ONE* THE SERUM *EVER* WORKED ON THE WAY IT WAS *MEANT TO,* ROGERS...
...WHICH IS HOW I CONVINCED HIM TO *CHANGE HIS NAME* TO *ERSKINE...*
...SO WE COULD *LURE YOU* INTO THIS TRAP.

OR I SHOULD SAY HIS *WIFE* CONVINCED HIM WE NEEDED TO GET YOUR ATTENTION...
BUT SINCE I BUILT *AND* PROGRAMMED *HER,* IT'S REALLY THE SAME THING.
YOU *SICK* BASTARD...
HOW COULD HE *NOT* SEE WHAT SHE WAS?
YOU CLEARLY HAVEN'T SPENT MUCH TIME WITH *OBSESSED SCIENTIFIC GENIUSES.*
AND I MEAN, *YOU* THOUGHT SHE WAS REAL, ROGERS.
I THOUGHT SHE WAS A *MIRAGE...* A TRICK.
AND SO SHE *WAS...*
HOW LUCKY FOR ME THAT JACOB'S *FATHER* KEPT MEMENTOS OF HIS DAYS IN *PROJECT REBORN...*
...INCLUDING PICTURES OF YOU AND YOUR *FIRST LOVE.*

SHE REALLY *IS* MY FINEST WORK...
...CRAZY SON OF A...
...MAYBE I'LL MASS-PRODUCE *HER* NEXT...
...AFTER I FINISH SELLING THE *SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM.*
YOU *CAN'T* DO THAT!
LISTEN TO ME! EVEN *YOU* HAVE TO SEE HOW--
WOULD YOU *SHUT HIM UP,* BOYS?
THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER *ASK,* BOSS.
KRAAAK

...WUHH...
THIS IS *SOLDIER ONE*... COME IN...?
DAMN IT.
MY COMM-LINK TO SHARON IS EITHER FRIED OR BLOCKED...
NOTHING TO DO NOW BUT *WAIT.*
I LEARNED *PLENTY* ABOUT WAITING IN THE ARMY, THOUGH.
THAT'S THE LIFE OF A SOLDIER.
THE DOWNTIME BEFORE THE ACTION.

AND I *KNOW* MACHINESMITH ISN'T DONE WITH ME...HE HASN'T *GLOATED* ENOUGH YET.
AH, YOU'RE *AWAKE...* GOOD.
I THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO *ELECTRIFY* THE FLOOR TO BRING YOU AROUND.
WHAT'S *WRONG,* SAXON? AFRAID TO LEAVE ONE OF YOUR ROBOT BODIES *ALONE* WITH ME?
IN *MY* STATE?
THE BRAVADO IS POINTLESS, ROGERS.
I HAVE WHAT I NEED... MY RIDDLE IS SOLVED...
I JUST WANTED TO SAY I WON'T BE *NEEDING YOU* ANYMORE.
BUT IT'S BEEN FUN.
C'MERE, *FREAK...*

...TIME FOR YOUR LONG WALK TO NOWHERE.
HEY!
SO DON'T TRY ANYTHING, PIPSQUEAK.
MACHINESMITH'S THINKING I'VE ALREADY LOST.
BREAK 'IS NOSE, JONNY!
NOT SO SUPER NOW, ARE YA?
YOU AIN'T SPECIAL...
THINKING I'M THAT WEAK LITTLE KID I ONCE WAS.
WHAT THE HELL D'YOU--
BUT HE'S MADE A BIG MISTAKE... SEE...

...THOSE BEATINGS... AND THAT SCARED, SKINNY, SICKLY LITTLE STEVE ROGERS...
SISSY!
STUPID BEANPOLE JERK!
THAT WAS WHERE THE MAN I BECAME WAS REALLY BORN.
--GAKK!
NOT IN THE FIRES OF WAR.
NOT IN A SECRET GOVERNMENT LAB.
BUT INSIDE A SENSE OF JUSTICE.

AND THE MAN I BECAME IS ALSO THE *BEST-TRAINED* COMBAT FIGHTER IN THE *WORLD*.
GYAAAHH!
THAT TRAINING DIDN'T JUST SIMPLY *VANISH*...
...BECAUSE MACHINESMITH SOMEHOW *TURNED OFF* THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM INSIDE ME.
KRAAAK

BECAUSE SIZE AND STRENGTH *AREN'T* ENOUGH...
UHHN!
THE *BULL* IS BIGGER THAN THE *BULLFIGHTER,* AFTER ALL.
STUPID SON OF A--
SKILLS MATTER.
KA-TAAANG

AND I'M NOT AN UNDERDOG YOU *EVER* WANT TO BET AGAINST...
UHHH...
I'LL BREAK YOUR--
SKINNY LITTLE *RUNT!*
KWAAAANG
...NOT IF YOU KNOW *ANYTHING* ABOUT ME.
GUHH...

I FIND MY WAY TO THE LAB WHERE I WOKE UP BEFORE...
...AND HOPEFULLY A WAY TO RESTORE WHAT I'VE *LOST* HERE.
BZKKZZT
I NEED YOUR HELP.
...WHAT...? *WAIT*...
WHAT AM...I... DOING?
OH... OH, GOD...I *REMEMBER*... OH, GOD...
THAT BASTARD. MADE ME THINK...
THERE'S NO *TIME* FOR THIS.
WHERE ARE WE?
A *SECRET LAB*...UNDER THE BEACH HOUSE...

OKAY. SO WHERE'S MACHINESMITH RUNNING HIS *SUPER-SOLDIER* TESTS?
AND HOW DID HE *DO THIS* TO ME?
HOW AM *I* SUPPOSED TO--
YOU'RE *PROGRAMMED* TO BE ANITA ERSKINE...*SHE* KNOWS.
THINK. *REMEMBER.*
...
OKAY... OKAY. LET'S *GO.*
IT'LL BE *FASTER* IF I LEAD THE WAY...

A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
--ONLY BEEN HERE *ONCE* BEFORE.
BUT YOU'RE SURE THIS'LL *WORK?*
NOT *SURE,* NO.
BUT I REMEMBER MY--
I MEAN, I REMEMBER *JACOB* TALKING ABOUT A *FAILSAFE* THEY'D DEVELOPED...
...IN CASE THEIR EXPERIMENTS WENT *WRONG.*
SOMETHING TO DO WITH *NEUTRALIZING* THE VITA RAY PROCESS.
BUT THE SERUM IS STILL IN YOUR VEINS.
THEN LET'S HOPE *ANOTHER DOSE* OF VITA RAYS WILL--
--AHHHHH!

HOLD IT!
SHRAK
DON'T FREAKIN' MOVE!
NOT AN INCH!

YOU JUST MADE A *BIG MISTAKE,* BUDDY.
FUNNY...
...I WAS GOING TO SAY THE *SAME THING* TO ALL OF YOU.
BLAMM BLAMM

I DON'T HOLD BACK. THERE'S NO *TIME*.
KNNCH
MACHINESMITH COULD BE SELLING THE FORMULA RIGHT THIS SECOND.
KA-RAAAK
BUT ALSO... BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO.
THESE MEN ARE *BULLIES*. BRUTES.
GUHH--

USING THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM LIKE *STEROIDS.*
KZZAKK
AND I WON'T DENY HOW *ANGRY* THAT MAKES ME.
SMAKK
KRAK
KNNCH
MY GOD... YOU JUST... TOOK THEM *APART...*
IT'S WHAT I WAS *MADE* FOR.
YOU WERE PROGRAMMED WITH A *BIT* OF CYNTHIA GLASS...SO YOU SHOULD REMEMBER *THAT,* TOO.
NOW LET'S *GO...*
UNLESS YOU WANT TO STAY HERE WITH THE *OTHER* SPARE PARTS.

WHERE ARE WE *GOING?*
YOU TELL *ME.*
MACHINESMITH IS MEETING REPRESENTATIVES FROM SEVERAL *TERRORIST-SUPPORTING* COUNTRIES.
WHERE ON *MADRIPOOR* WOULD HE BE ABLE TO KEEP SOMETHING LIKE THAT OUT OF THE *PUBLIC EYE?*
THERE'S A... NEXTIN HAS A *BASE,* WITH AN *AIRFIELD...*
THEN *THAT'S* WHERE WE'RE GOING...TO STOP HIM.
ARE YOU WITH ME?
WHAT...? AM I...
YES. YES, I THINK... I AM...
TO BE CONCLUDED...

THE HEROIC AGE™
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STEVE ROGERS
Super-Soldier™

BRUBAKER
EAGLESHAM
TROY

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IN 1940, THE *FIRST* PROFESSOR ERSKINE CREATED WHAT CAME TO BE CALLED THE *"SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM."*
A *FORMULA* DESIGNED TO TAKE THE HUMAN BODY TO ITS *PEAK* POTENTIAL...
TO CREATE AN ARMY FASTER, STRONGER *AND* MORE DURABLE THAN THE *FINEST ATHLETES.*
EXTIN
NEXTI
UNFORTUNATELY, *THAT* SERUM WAS ONLY USED ONE TIME... BUT THE *RESULTS* SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.
STEVE ROGERS, CAPTAIN AMERICA... THE WORLD'S ONLY *TRUE* SUPER-SOLDIER...
...UNTIL *TODAY.*

YOU SEE, JACOB ERSKINE SPENT HIS *ENTIRE LIFE* TRYING TO RECREATE HIS GRANDFATHER'S *SERUM*...
AND IN THE DAYS BEFORE HIS *MURDER*, HE *SUCCEEDED*.
SO NOW NEXTIN PHARMACEUTICALS IS OFFERING *YOU* A CHANCE TO HAVE *YOUR OWN* ARMY OF SUPER-SOLDIERS...
AN ARMY THAT *NO ENEMY* WILL BE PREPARED FOR...
NOW THEN... GENTLEMEN...
...SHALL WE START THE BIDDING AT *ONE HUNDRED MILLION* PER VIAL?

TEN MINUTES OUT FROM NEXTIN'S PRIVATE BASE AND I'M STILL SCRAMBLING FOR A *REAL PLAN...*
LUCKILY, I'VE GOT A *SCIENTIFIC GENIUS* ON CALL.
THE *PROBLEM* IS THE MACHINESMITH, HANK...
YES, EVEN IF YOU DESTROY HIS *ROBOTIC BODY...*
...HIS *CONSCIOUSNESS* WILL LEAP TO THE NEAREST AVAILABLE *DEVICE.*
WHICH WOULD BE *BAD ENOUGH...*
BUT THAT FORMULA *CAN'T* BE ALLOWED TO *ESCAPE* WITH HIM.
SO HOW DO I *PREVENT* THAT?
I'M NOT *SURE...*
...BUT I'VE GOT AN *IDEA.*

IS YOUR NEW ROBOTIC FRIEND ABLE TO HELP US?
I'M NOT... MY PROGRAMMING WON'T LET ME ATTACK MACHINESMITH.
I DO KNOW THAT.
BUT SHE WANTS TO HELP.
INTERESTING... YOU'D THINK MACHINESMITH WOULDN'T MAKE SUCH INDEPENDENT A.I.
WHAT-- WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NOTHING...
IN ANY CASE, IF WHAT I'M THINKING WORKS, THEN YOU WON'T HAVE TO ATTACK ANYONE.
PLUG YOUR INPUT INTO THE COMM SYSTEM AND I'LL EXPLAIN AS WE GO...

--GOING *ONCE*...FOUR HUNDRED MILLION GOING *TWICE*...
FOUR-FIFTY!
FIVE HUNDRED MILLION!
FIVE HUNDRED AND *TWENTY* MILLION... IN *GOLD*.
GOLD?
OH, NOW SOMEONE *IS* GETTING SERIOUS.
--*SORRY*, MRS. ERSKINE... BUT I'VE GOT *STRICT ORDERS* FROM MR. SMITH...
NO ONE IS ALLOWED THROUGH THE GATE *TONIGHT*.
APPARENTLY HE'S GOT SOME REAL *V.I.P.* CLIENTS ON SITE...
DO YOU THINK I'M NOT *AWARE* OF THAT? I'M *ACTING CEO* OF THE ENTIRE COMPANY.
I'M SUPPOSED TO *BE* AT THAT MEETING.
NOW, ARE YOU GOING TO *OPEN THE GATE?*
OR AM I GOING TO ASK FOR YOUR *RESIGNATION?*

OH... WELL...
HAVE A *NICE NIGHT*, MA'AM.
THANK YOU...
"HOW LONG DO YOU THINK WE *HAVE?*"
HE'S *PROBABLY* ALERTING MACHINESMITH TO YOUR SURPRISE VISIT RIGHT NOW...
SO...NOT *LONG...*

BUT I'LL KEEP HIM BUSY WHILE YOU DO WHAT YOU HAVE TO...
I'LL MOVE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
I'VE ALREADY ACCESSED THE BASE'S LAYOUT AND ISOLATED ALL OUR TARGETS.
IT WAS ALL IN MY MEMORY BANKS.
THE AIR FIELD IS AT THE WEST PERIMETER.
I'M SORRY THIS IS THE ONLY WAY...
DON'T BE. I'M JUST LINES OF CODE PROGRAMMED TO REMIND YOU OF SOMEONE.
I'M NOT REAL.
THEN WHY ARE YOU HELPING ME?
I DON'T KNOW...I GUESS I WAS PROGRAMMED TO FEEL ANGER.

IT'S TOO MUCH, SMITH!
YOU SAID ONE HUNDRED!
EXCUSE ME, GENTLEMEN...
BEEP BEEP
I THOUGHT I SAID NO INTERRUPTIONS?
I'M SORRY, SIR...BUT I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THIS...
UH-HUNH... YES...THAT'S FINE...
WELL... I'M AFRAID YOU ALL MIGHT WANT TO TAKE A FEW STEPS BACK...
...OR FIND YOURSELVES SOME COVER.
IT APPEARS WE'RE ABOUT TO GET A FIRSTHAND DEMONSTRATION OF WHAT THIS FORMULA CAN DO...

...AND THIS *ALSO* MEANS IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO MEET MY *INNER SELF*...
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
LOOK OUT!
BAH HA HA HA HA!
HE *KNEW* I WAS COMING... OF COURSE HE DID.

WHICH MEANS I'VE GOT *ONE CHANCE.*
YOU'RE EARLY. I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU...
NO MISTAKES.
...FOR ANOTHER--
--HEY!
NO HESITATION.
SKKZZZKKK
OH, COME *ON,* ROGERS...
...YOU DIDN'T ACTUALLY EXPECT *THAT* TO *WORK,* DID YOU?

NOT *REALLY...*
GOOD. BECAUSE, I MEAN, WE *HAVE* DONE THIS BEFORE...
...*HAVEN'T* WE?
MACHINESMITH MOVES FROM DEVICE TO DEVICE...
RATATATATAT
BYAH HA HA HA HA HA!
...AT THE SPEED OF A WIRELESS HEARTBEAT.

IT'S EVEN WORSE THAN I *REMEMBER.*
CAN'T MISS A *STEP* HERE.
WHAT'S THIS, ROGERS? YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR ARSEN--
RATATATATAT
WOOOM

TATATATATATAT
HAVE TO USE HIM BEING *EVERYWHERE*...
...AND EVERY*THING*...
YOU THINK YOU'RE *FASTER* THAN ME, ROGERS?
...AGAINST HIM.
FWHOOSH
IS THAT WHAT YOU *REALLY* THINK?

JUST HOPE I'M GIVING HIS *RENEGADE* ROBOT...
RATATATATATAT
...ENOUGH TIME.

LOOKS LIKE IT'S JUST YOU AND *ME*, MACHINESMITH...
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, YOU--
HEY.
WHAT-- WHAT DID YOU *DO?*
YOU'RE *BLOCKING* SATELLITE RECEPTION?
CELL TOWERS, TOO...
...AND THAT ISN'T *ALL,* BASTARD.
SEE...YOUR *SPECIALLY BUILT* ROBOT THERE JUST *DESTROYED...*
"*...EVERY* ELECTRONICS SYSTEM ON THIS BASE."

WELL...*EVERY* ELECTRONICS SYSTEM--
SKKRAAZZ
--BUT *ONE.*
ROGERS, YOU *FOOL...*
YOU THOUGHT MY *OWN* CREATION COULD HELP *YOU...*
I *DID,* BUT ONLY...
...BECAUSE SHE WAS *WILLING* TO MAKE A *SACRIFICE.*
WHAT?

SACRIFICE? WAIT--WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
APPARENTLY, IT WAS A SIMPLE ADJUSTMENT TO HER OPERATING SYSTEM.
YOU'VE RECONFIGURED THE--I CAN'T GET--
ALLOWING WIRELESS TRAFFIC IN...
BUT NOT OUT.
FA-BOOOM
NOOOOOOOO--

--HOW-- CLLKK-HOW-- CLLKK--
THAT'S *ENOUGH* OUT OF YOU.
BEEP

NEXT DAY--
SECRET AVENGERS
ROAMING HQ
STEVE?
IS EVERYTHING OKAY?
YEAH, SHARON... JUST...
THINKING ABOUT THE OLD DAYS...
YEAH, I CAN IMAGINE YOU WOULD BE...
WELL, HANK'S GOT A REPORT FOR YOU...BUT THERE'S A PROBLEM.
PROBLEM?

THIS *ISN'T* THE SUPER-SOLDIER FORMULA... *THAT'S* THE PROBLEM.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THOSE SAMPLES ARE FROM THE *CASE* THAT MACHINESMITH HAD *WITH HIM*...
...THAT HE WAS TRYING TO *SELL* TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.
I *KNOW* THAT...
BUT I'VE RUN EVERY TEST THERE IS ON WHAT'S IN THESE VIALS...
AND *THIS* SERUM COULDN'T CURE THE *COMMON COLD*...
...LET ALONE TURN A *MAN* INTO A *SUPER-SOLDIER*...
BUT... THAT MAKES NO SENSE.
THEN WHAT WAS THIS ENTIRE MISSION *ABOUT?*

EPILOGUE--
DETROIT, MICHIGAN
--AND YOU'RE CERTAIN IT WORKS *NOW?*
OH, YES, WE ONLY NEEDED A *SAMPLE* OF ROGERS' *BLOOD* FOR A COMPARISON...
SHAME WE HAD TO *SACRIFICE* MACHINESMITH FOR YOUR *RUSE,* THEN...
...ISN'T IT, *PROFESSOR ERSKINE?*
I WOULDN'T *WORRY,* DIRECTOR THORNDRAKE...
...IT'S *MACHINESMITH...* IT'S NOT AS IF HE CAN *EVER* REALLY DIE.
AND WE LET ROGERS THINK HE'D *ACCOMPLISHED* SOMETHING...
THAT *SHOULD* KEEP HIM OUT OF OUR HAIR FOR NOW.
OH, WAIT... IS THIS HIM?

YES... THAT'S *SUBJECT TWELVE*...AGE SEVENTEEN.
ALMOST READY.
AND HE'S GOT THE *EXACT SAME* HISTORY AS ROGERS?
WE MADE *SURE* OF IT. MOTHER *WITHERED AWAY* TWO YEARS AGO...
AND AS YOU CAN SEE, HE'S SUFFERING THROUGH A *TERRIBLE* ECONOMY.
IT'S A *BRILLIANT PLAN*, ERSKINE, TRULY...
IF THE SERUM ONLY *WORKS* ON STEVE ROGERS...
THEN WE CREATE *MORE* STEVE ROGERSES.
AND SOON THE *SHADOW COUNCIL* WILL HAVE A *WHOLE ARMY* OF SUPER-SOLDIERS.
RIGHT, NOW HOW MANY MORE DO WE HAVE TO CHECK ON...?
THE END...?

BRUBAKER
ACUÑA
CAPTAIN AMERICA
MARVEL
611
ALSO FEATURING
NOMAD

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WAR
Is Begun
Takes
Action

CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But there are some who are not happy that Bucky, thought killed towards the end of the war, is still alive. The son of the original Baron Zemo, Baron Helmut Zemo, recently discovered that his father failed to kill Bucky in World War II. Determined to destroy Bucky's life, believing Bucky has not properly earned it, Zemo revealed to the world media Bucky's dark tenure as the Soviet assassin, The Winter Soldier.

With the media frenzy building, it's only a matter of time before Bucky is called to account for his actions...

THE TRIAL OF CAPTAIN AMERICA part 1

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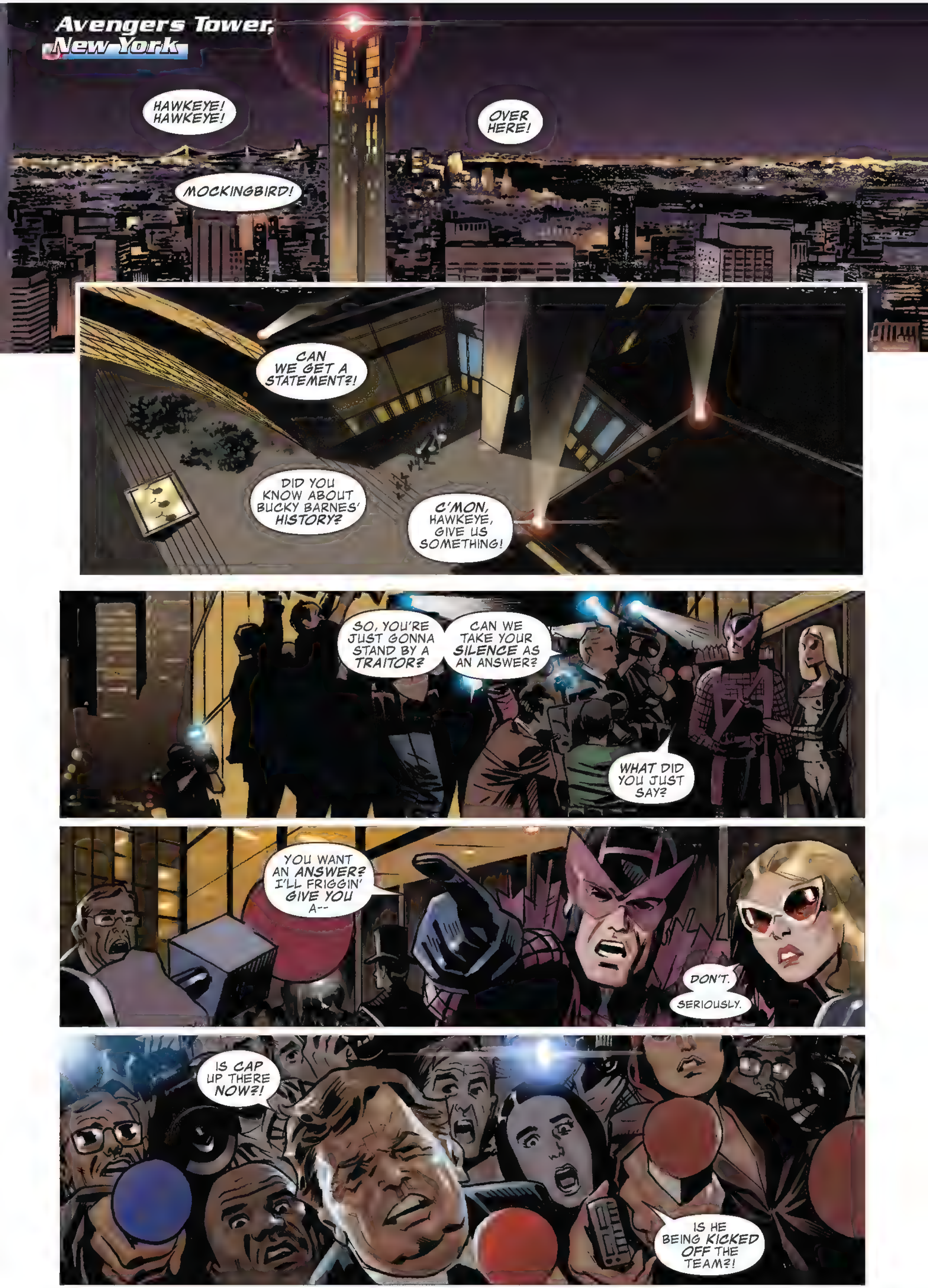
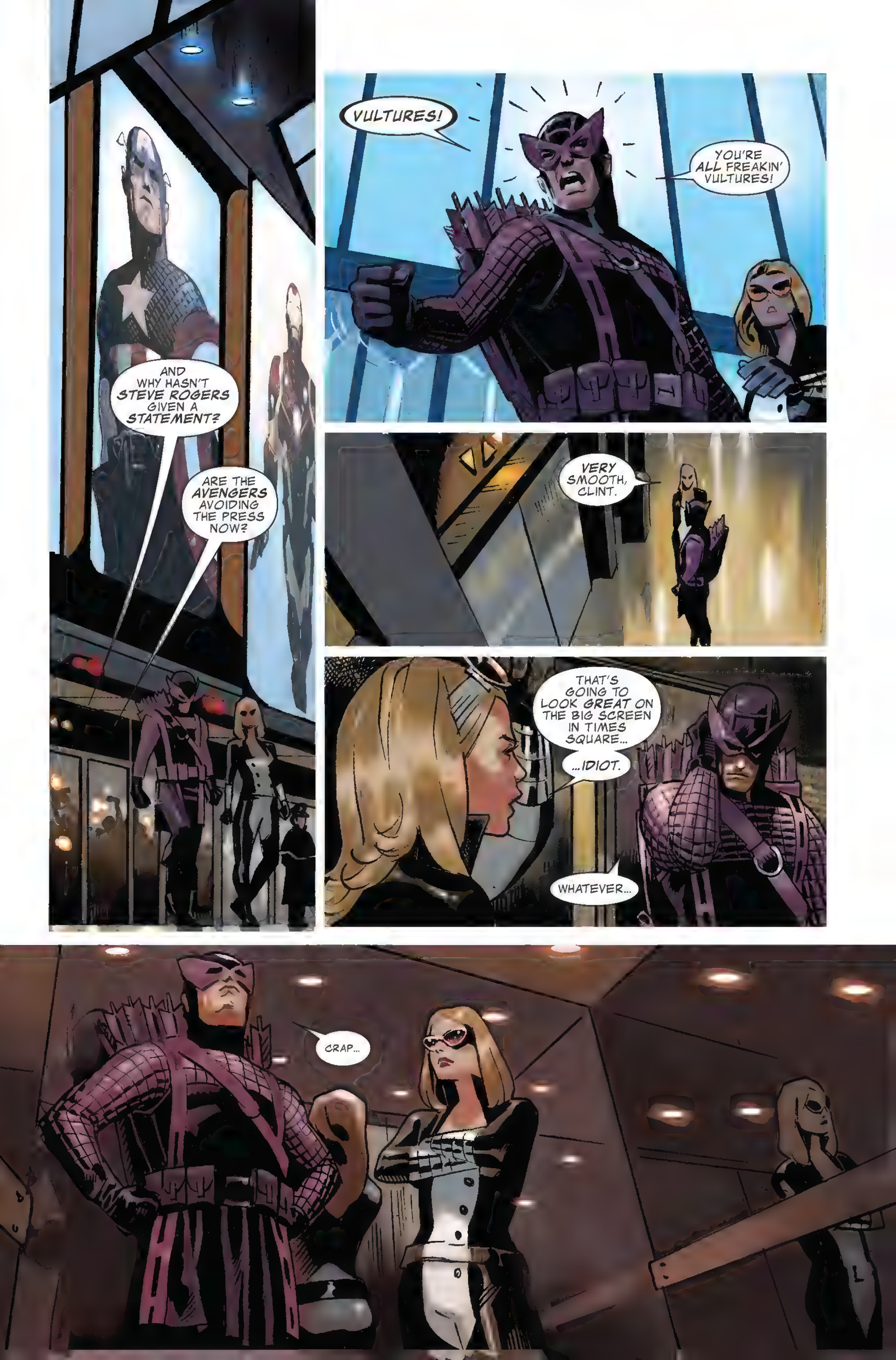
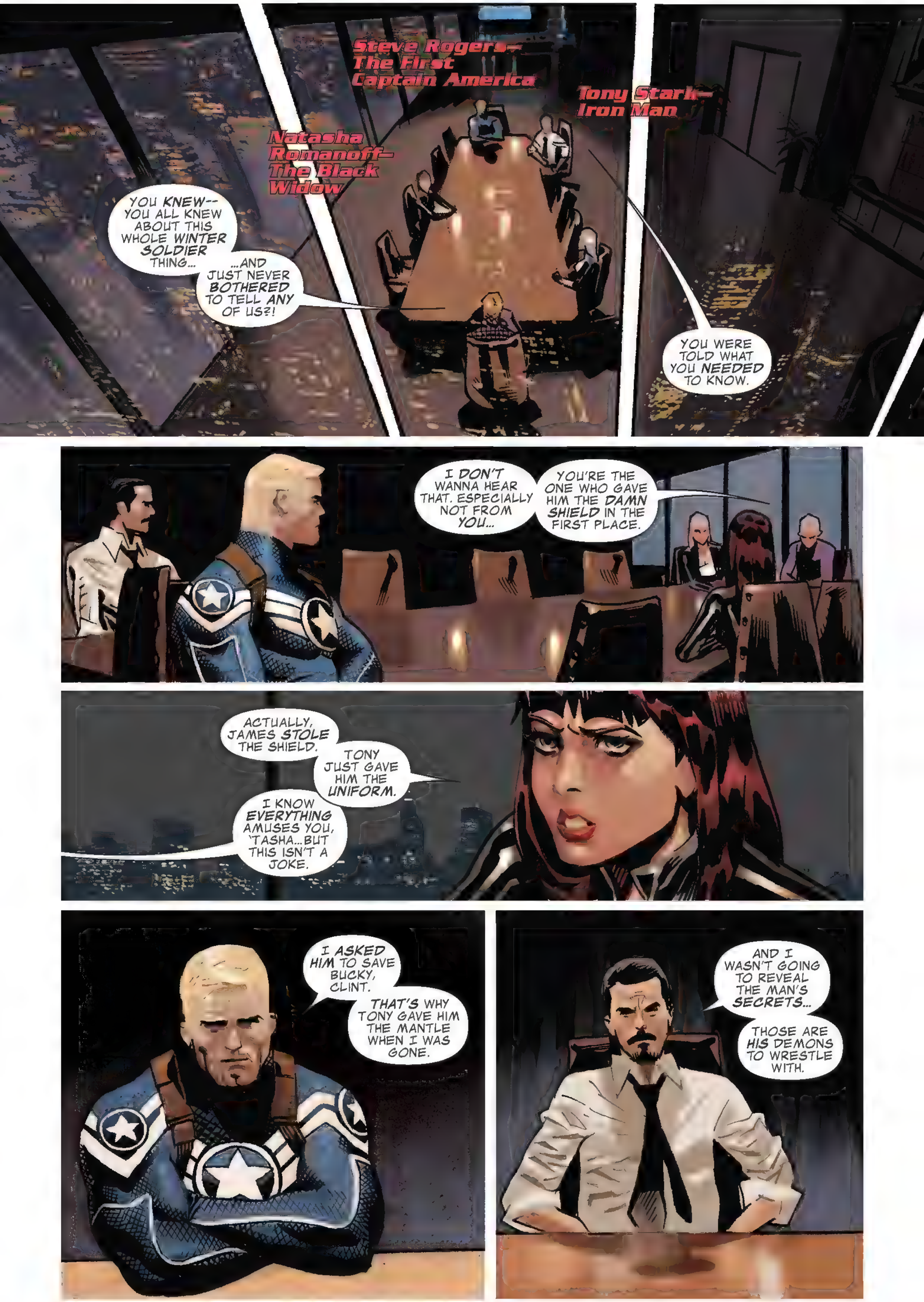
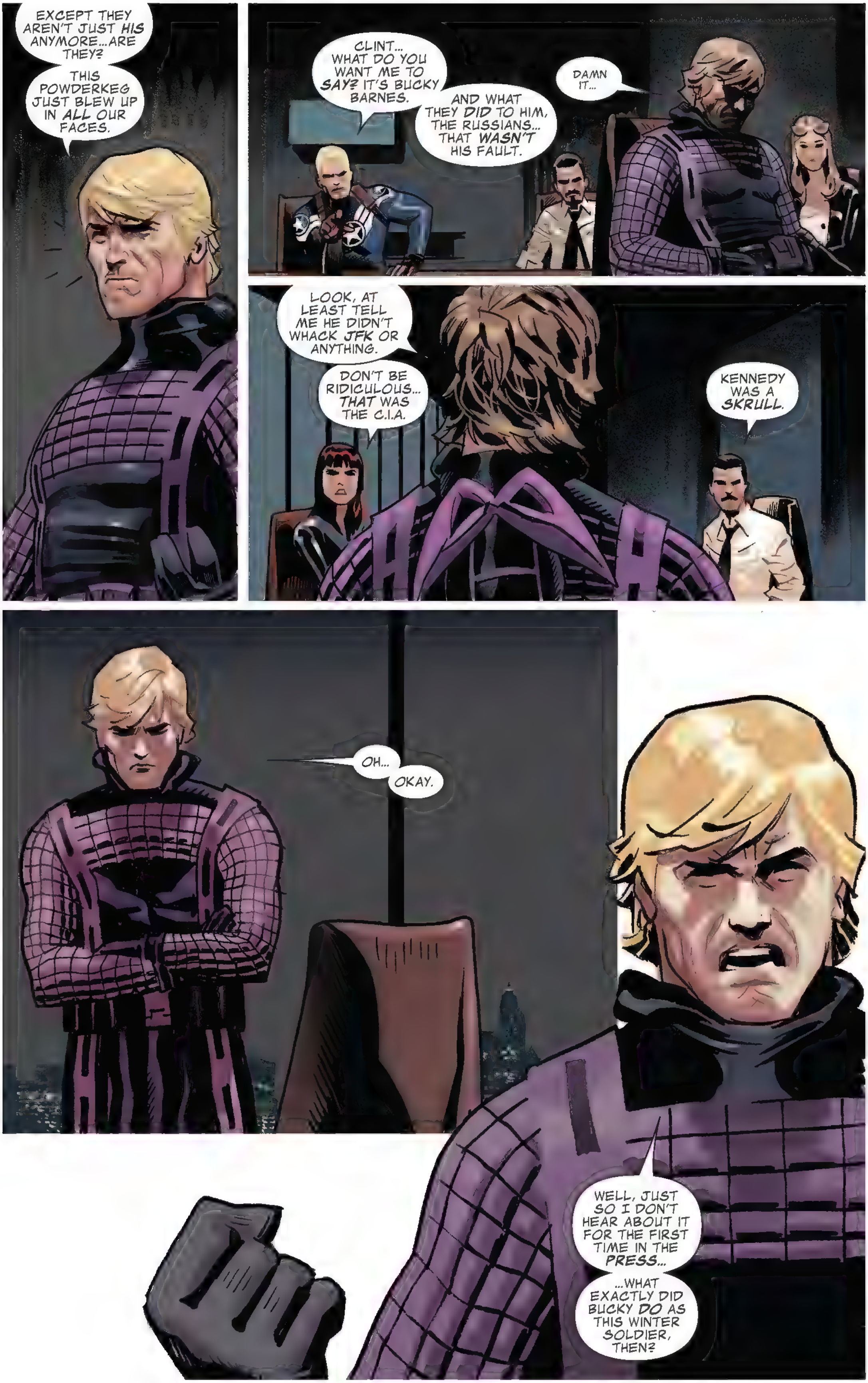
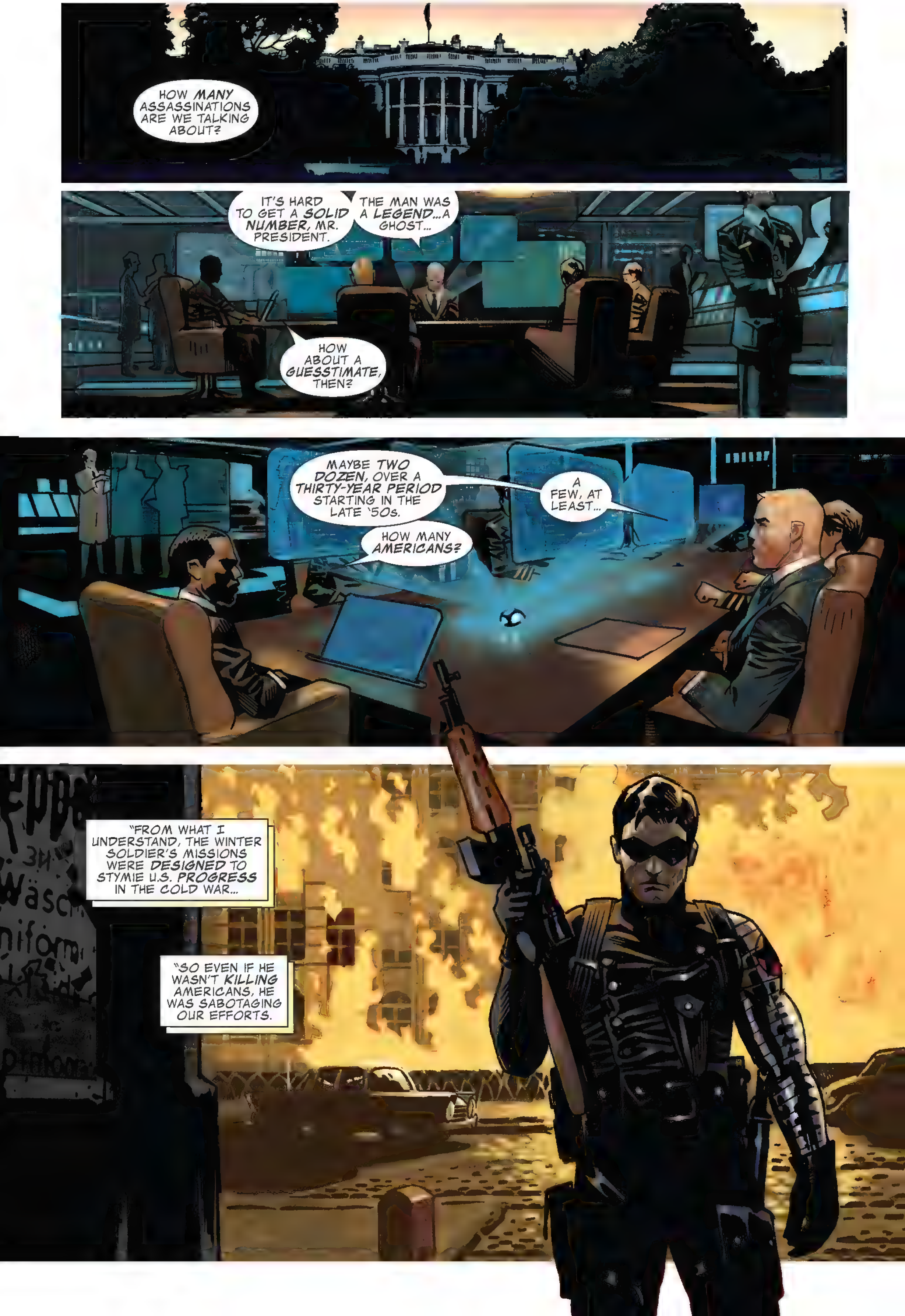
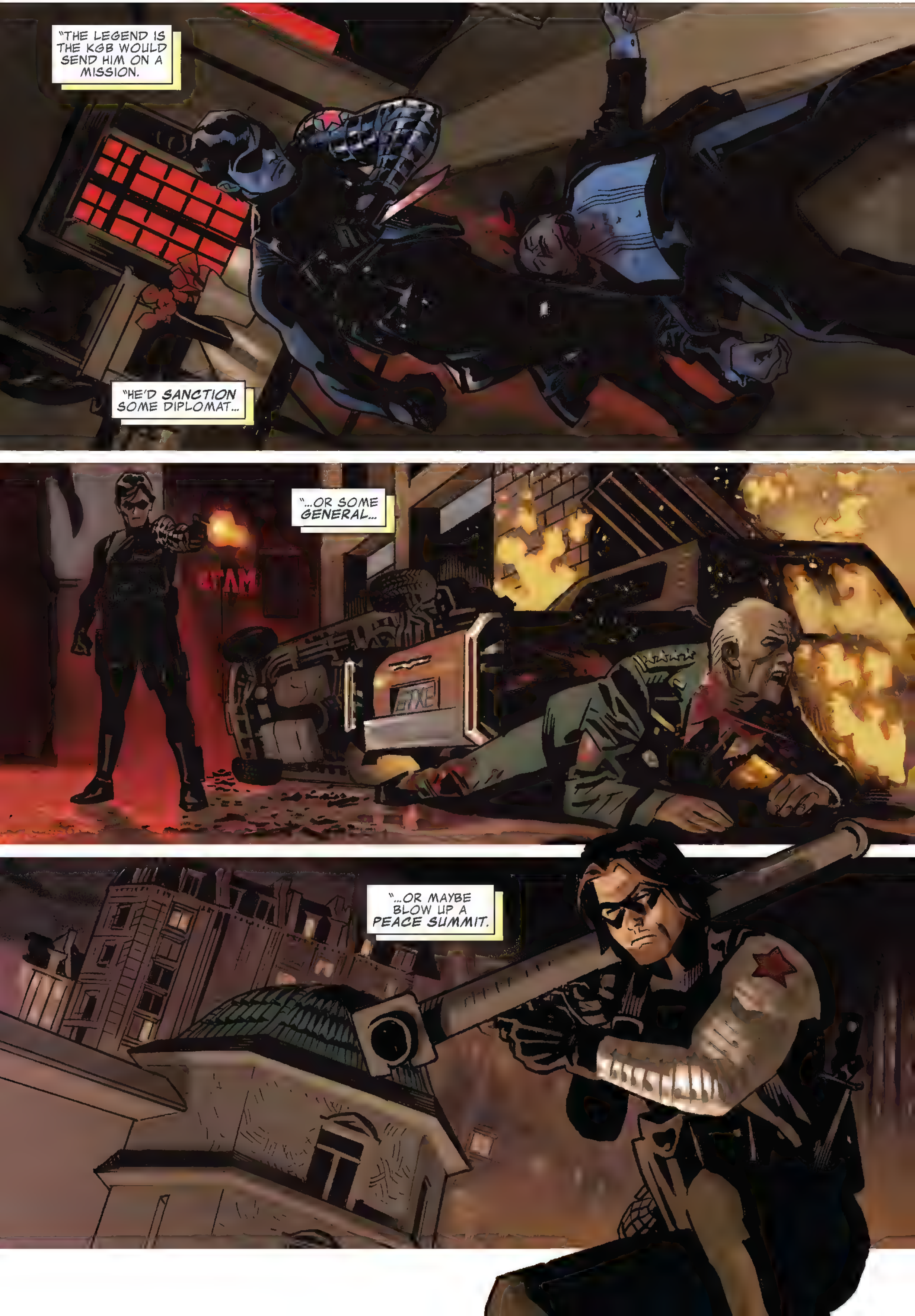

Avengers Tower, New York
HAWKEYE! HAWKEYE!
OVER HERE!
MOCKINGBIRD!
CAN WE GET A STATEMENT?!
DID YOU KNOW ABOUT BUCKY BARNES' HISTORY?
C'MON, HAWKEYE, GIVE US SOMETHING!
SO, YOU'RE JUST GONNA STAND BY A TRAITOR?
CAN WE TAKE YOUR SILENCE AS AN ANSWER?
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
YOU WANT AN ANSWER? I'LL FRIGGIN' GIVE YOU A--
DON'T.
SERIOUSLY.
IS CAP UP THERE NOW?!
IS HE BEING KICKED OFF THE TEAM?!

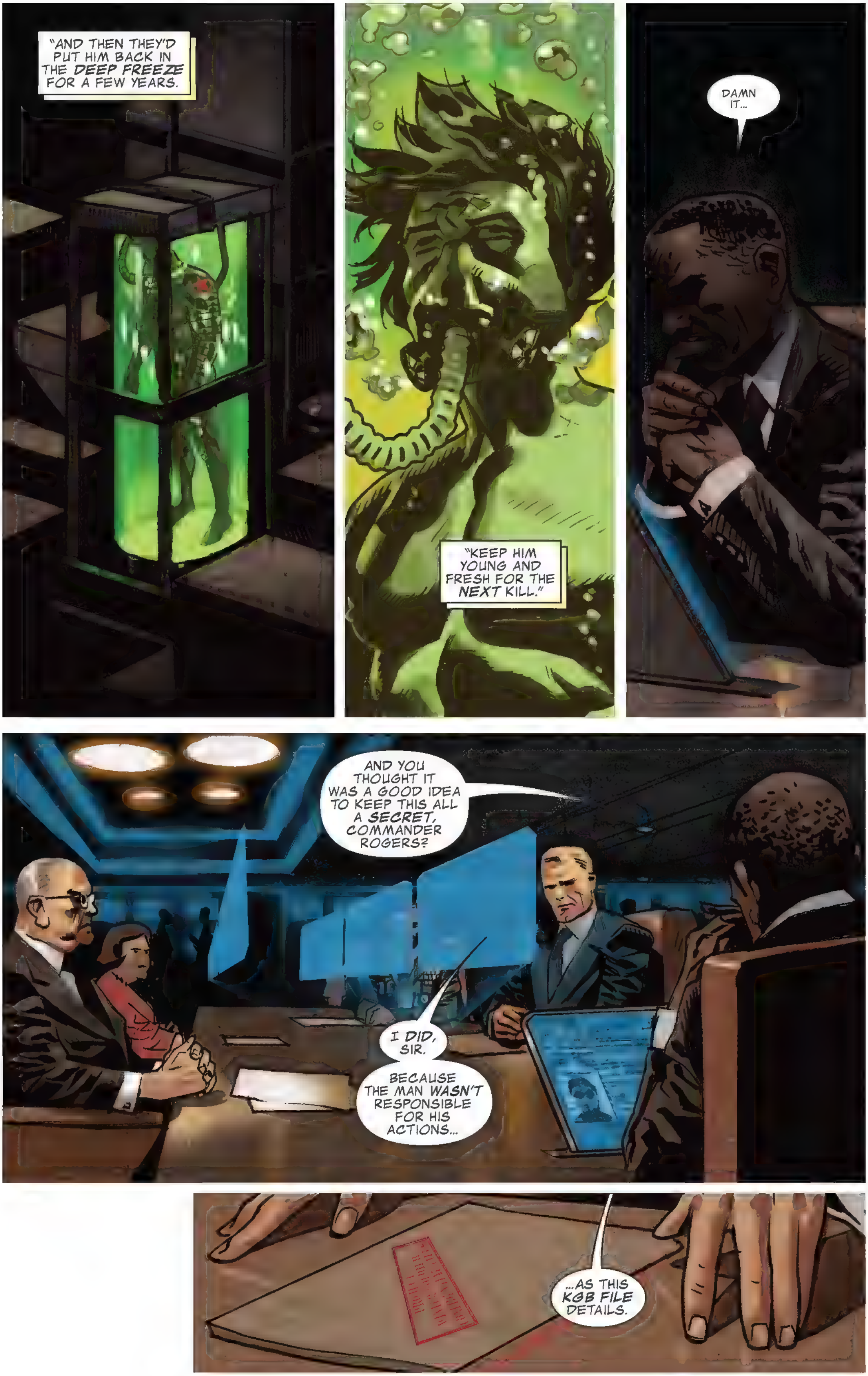

AND WHY HASN'T STEVE ROGERS GIVEN A STATEMENT?
ARE THE AVENGERS AVOIDING THE PRESS NOW?
VULTURES!
YOU'RE ALL FREAKIN' VULTURES!
VERY SMOOTH, CLINT.
THAT'S GOING TO LOOK GREAT ON THE BIG SCREEN IN TIMES SQUARE...
...IDIOT.
WHATEVER...
CRAP...

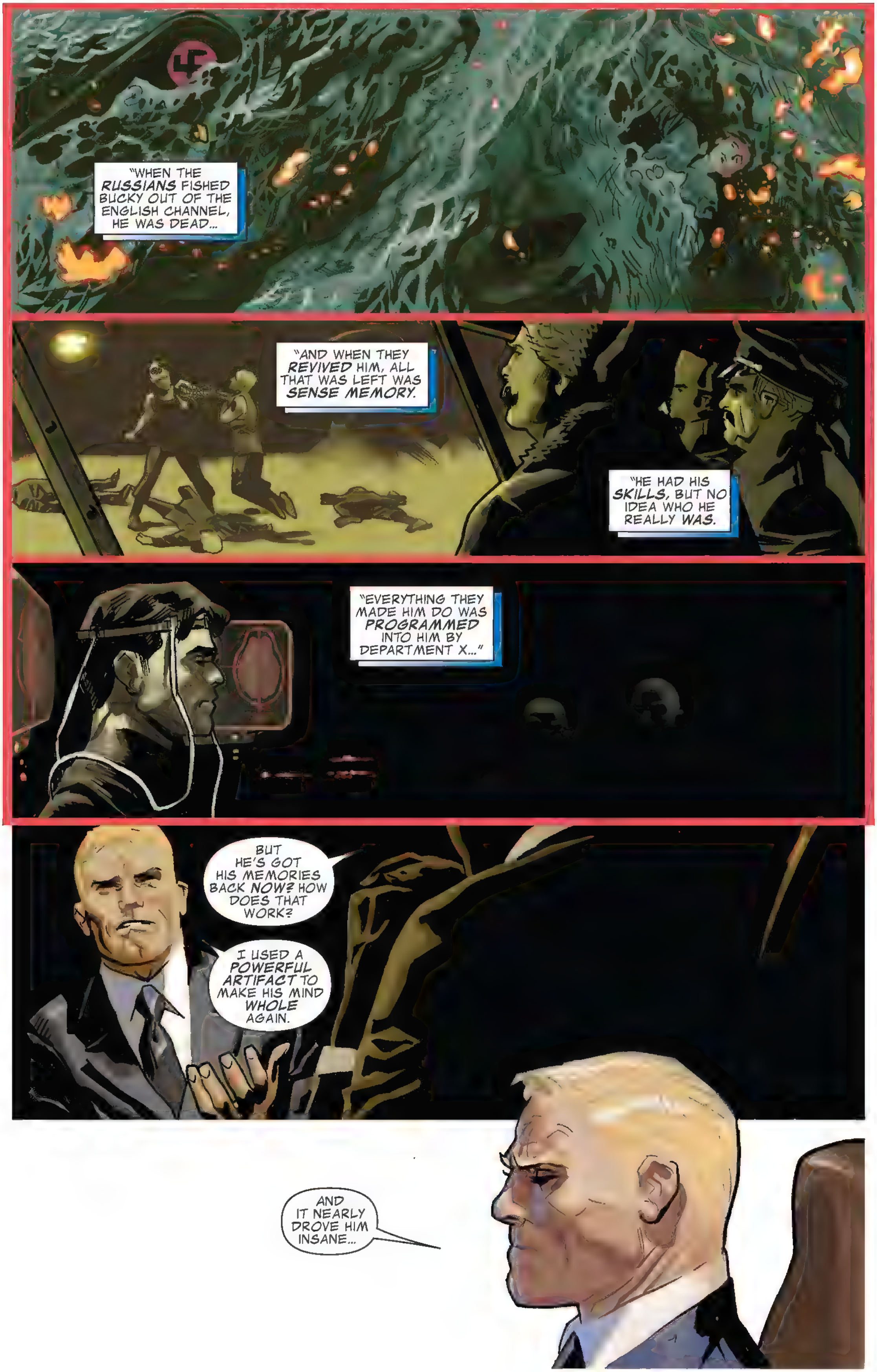

Steve Rogers— The First Captain America
Natasha Romanoff— The Black Widow
Tony Stark— Iron Man
YOU KNEW-- YOU ALL KNEW ABOUT THIS WHOLE WINTER SOLDIER THING...
...AND JUST NEVER BOTHERED TO TELL ANY OF US?!
YOU WERE TOLD WHAT YOU NEEDED TO KNOW.
I DON'T WANNA HEAR THAT. ESPECIALLY NOT FROM YOU...
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GAVE HIM THE DAMN SHIELD IN THE FIRST PLACE.
ACTUALLY, JAMES STOLE THE SHIELD.
TONY JUST GAVE HIM THE UNIFORM.
I KNOW EVERYTHING AMUSES YOU, 'TASHA...BUT THIS ISN'T A JOKE.
I ASKED HIM TO SAVE BUCKY, CLINT.
THAT'S WHY TONY GAVE HIM THE MANTLE WHEN I WAS GONE.
AND I WASN'T GOING TO REVEAL THE MAN'S SECRETS...
THOSE ARE HIS DEMONS TO WRESTLE WITH.

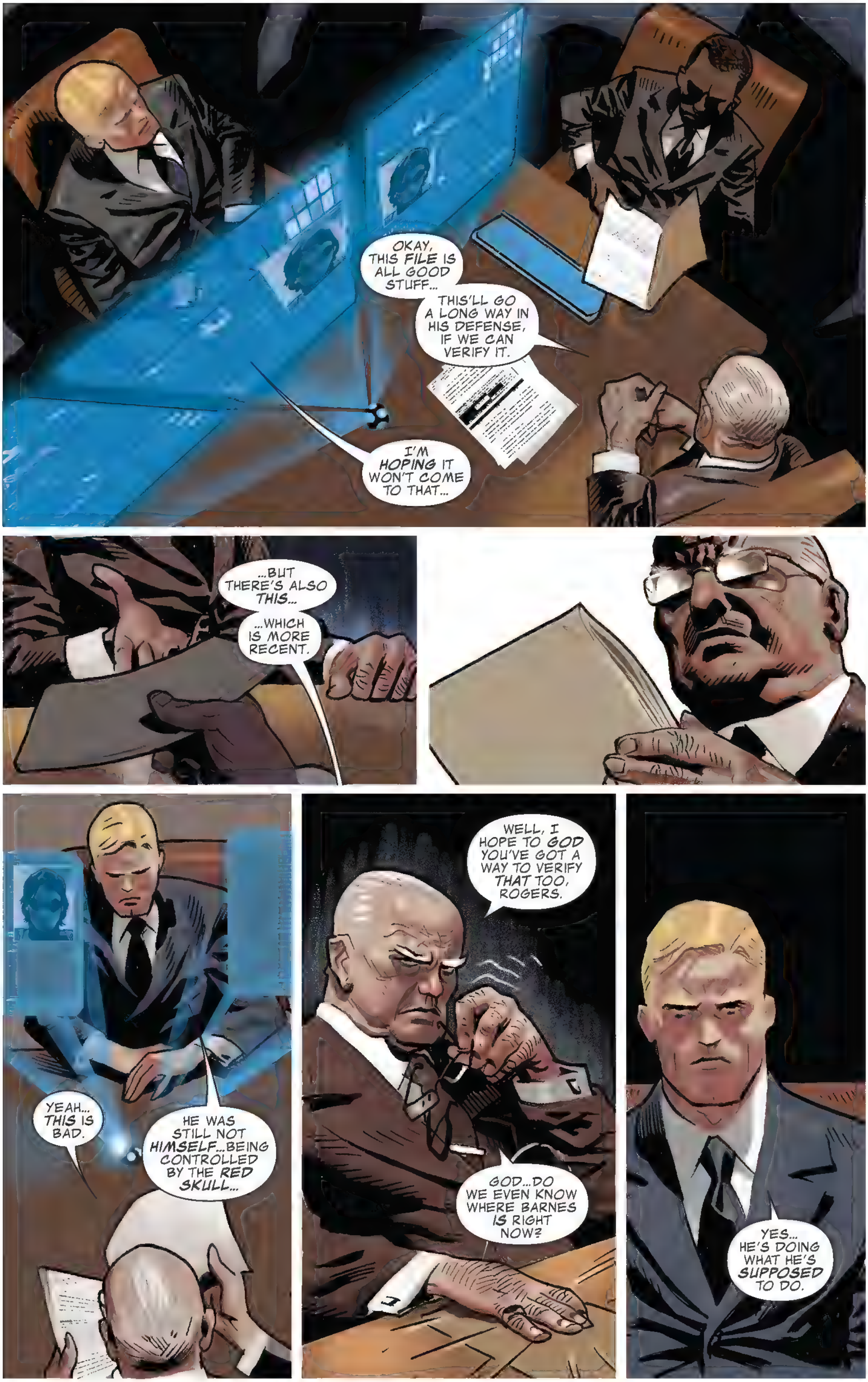

EXCEPT THEY AREN'T JUST *HIS* ANYMORE...ARE THEY?
THIS POWDERKEG JUST BLEW UP IN *ALL* OUR FACES.
CLINT... WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO *SAY?* IT'S BUCKY BARNES.
AND WHAT THEY *DID* TO HIM, THE RUSSIANS... THAT *WASN'T* HIS FAULT.
DAMN IT...
LOOK, AT LEAST TELL ME HE DIDN'T WHACK *JFK* OR ANYTHING.
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS... *THAT* WAS THE C.I.A.
KENNEDY WAS A *SKRULL*.
OH...
OKAY.
WELL, JUST SO I DON'T HEAR ABOUT IT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE *PRESS*...
...WHAT EXACTLY DID BUCKY *DO* AS THIS WINTER SOLDIER, THEN?

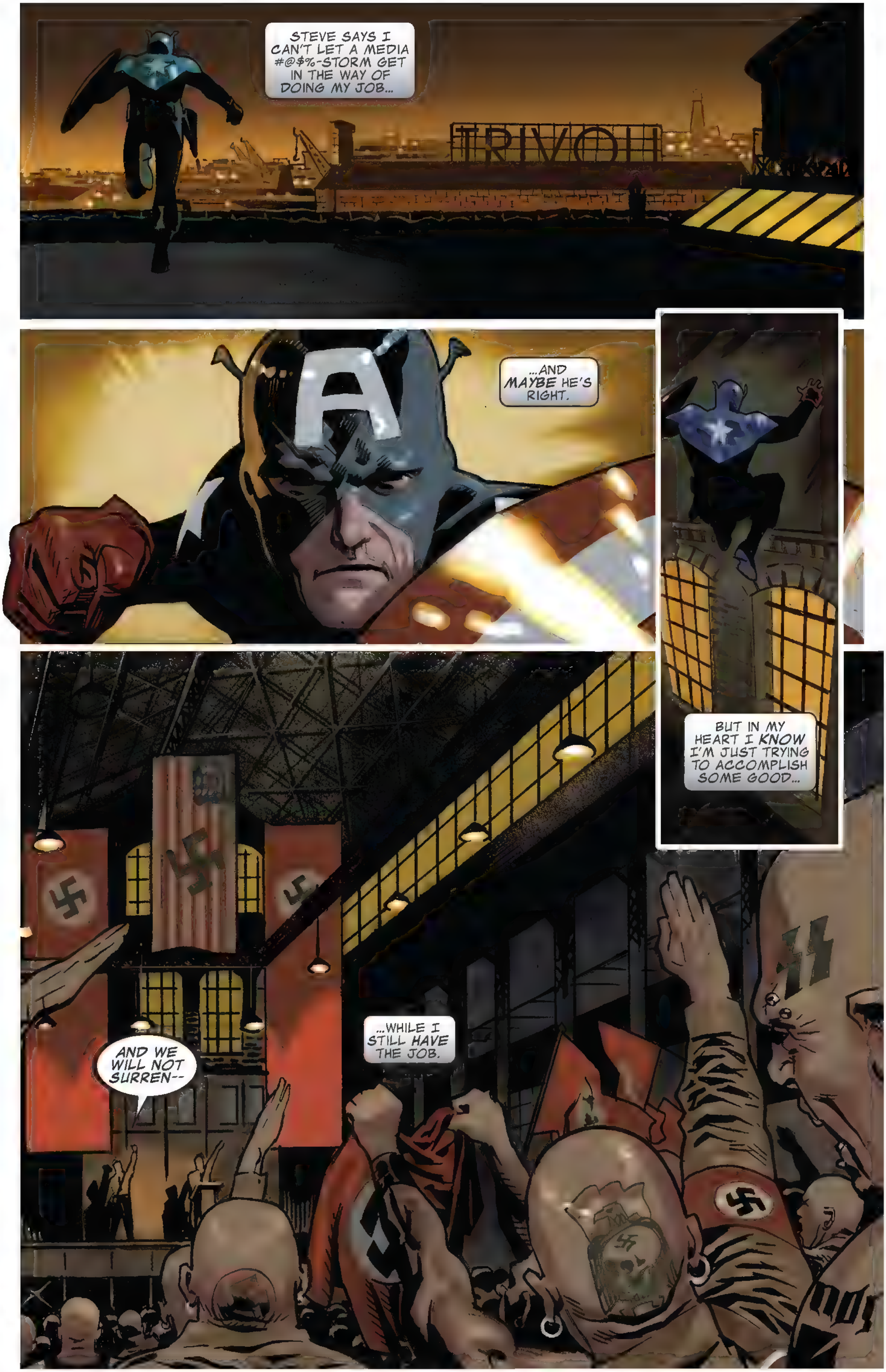

HOW MANY ASSASSINATIONS ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?
IT'S HARD TO GET A SOLID NUMBER, MR. PRESIDENT.
THE MAN WAS A LEGEND...A GHOST...
HOW ABOUT A GUESSTIMATE, THEN?
MAYBE TWO DOZEN, OVER A THIRTY-YEAR PERIOD STARTING IN THE LATE '50s.
A FEW, AT LEAST...
HOW MANY AMERICANS?
"FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, THE WINTER SOLDIER'S MISSIONS WERE DESIGNED TO STYMIE U.S. PROGRESS IN THE COLD WAR...
"SO EVEN IF HE WASN'T KILLING AMERICANS, HE WAS SABOTAGING OUR EFFORTS.

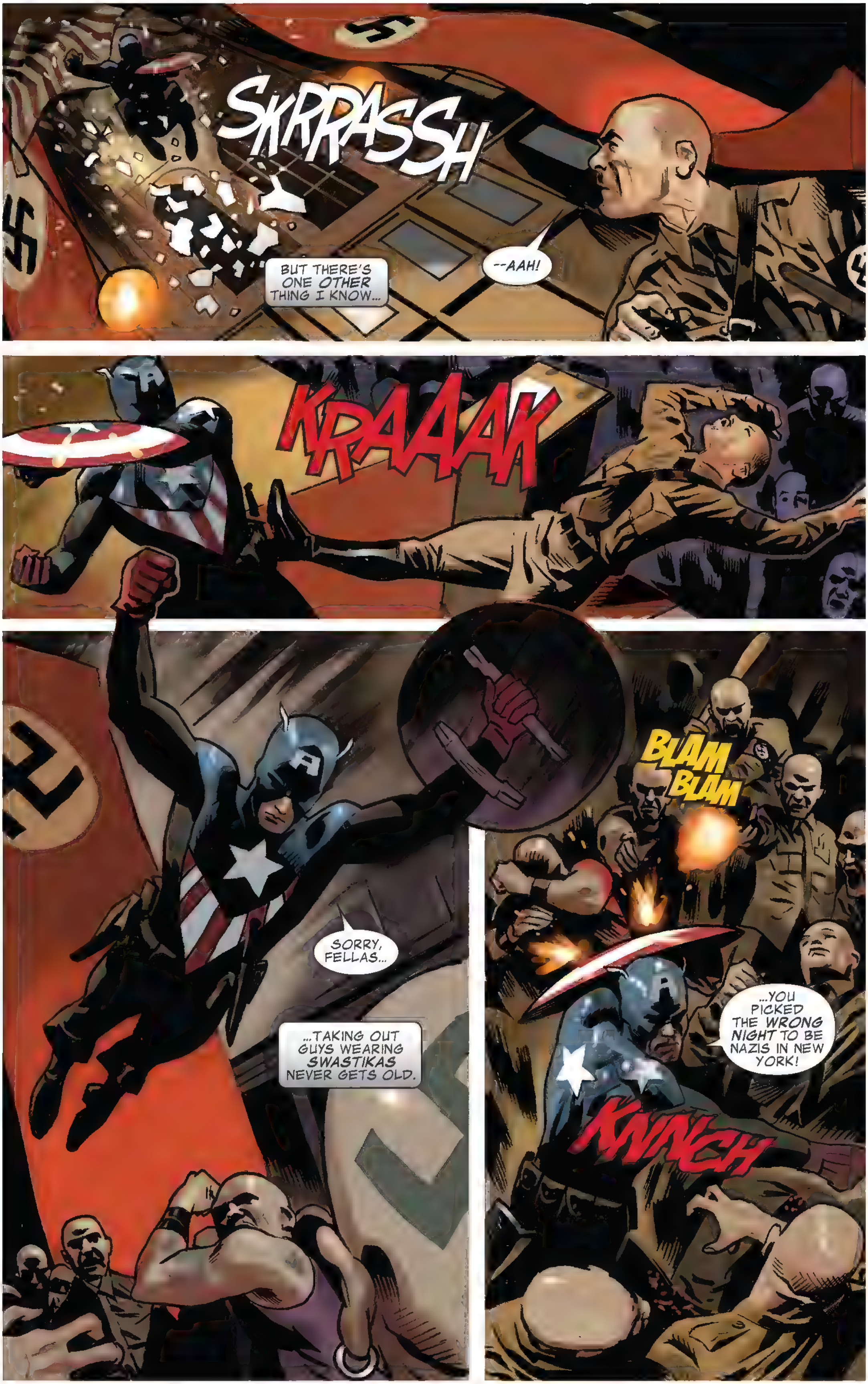

"THE LEGEND IS THE KGB WOULD SEND HIM ON A MISSION.
"HE'D *SANCTION* SOME DIPLOMAT...
"...OR SOME *GENERAL*...
"...OR MAYBE BLOW UP A *PEACE SUMMIT*.

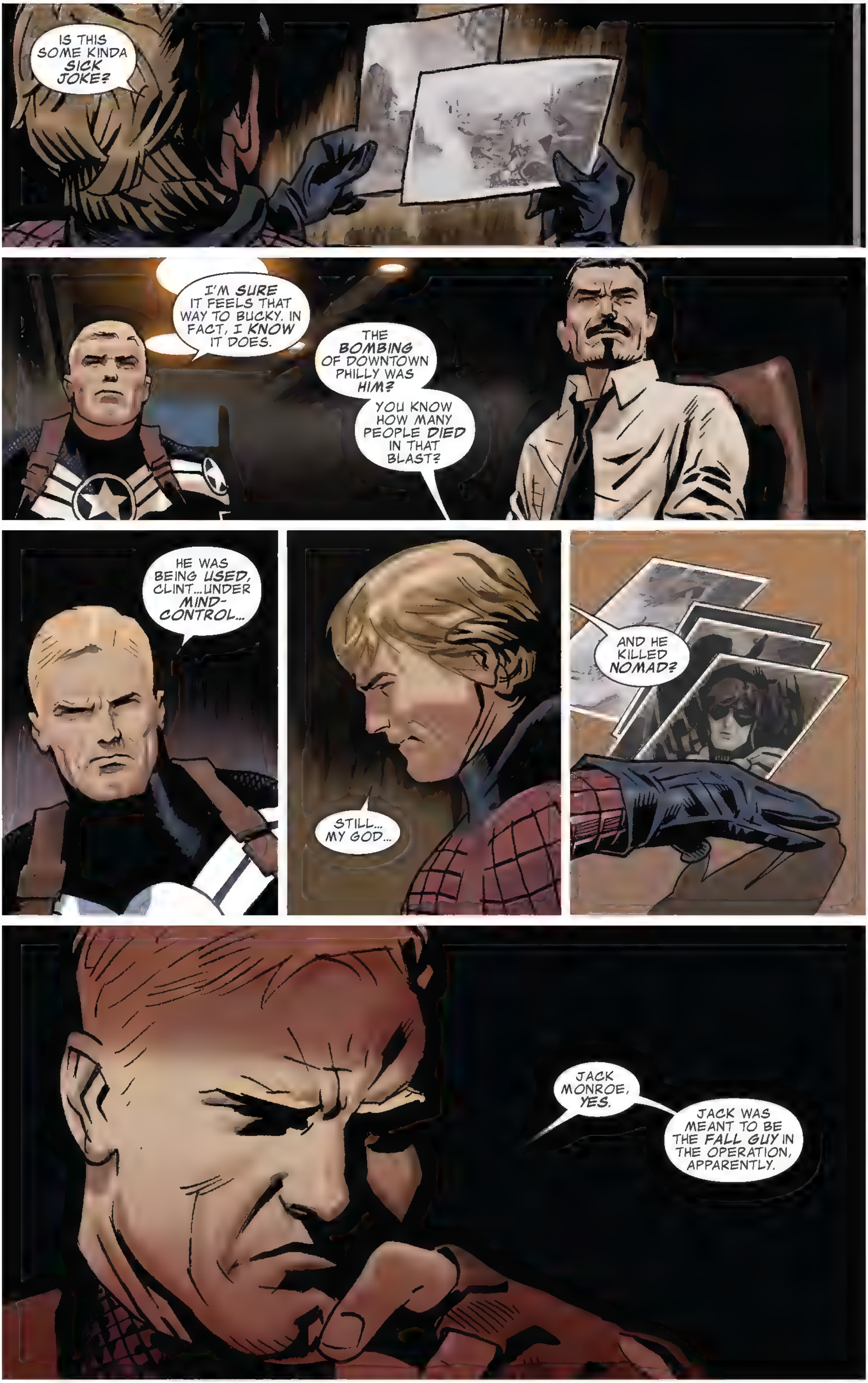

"AND THEN THEY'D PUT HIM BACK IN THE *DEEP FREEZE* FOR A FEW YEARS.
"KEEP HIM YOUNG AND FRESH FOR THE *NEXT* KILL."
DAMN IT...
AND YOU THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD IDEA TO KEEP THIS ALL A *SECRET,* COMMANDER ROGERS?
I *DID,* SIR.
BECAUSE THE MAN *WASN'T* RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS ACTIONS...
...AS THIS *KGB FILE* DETAILS.

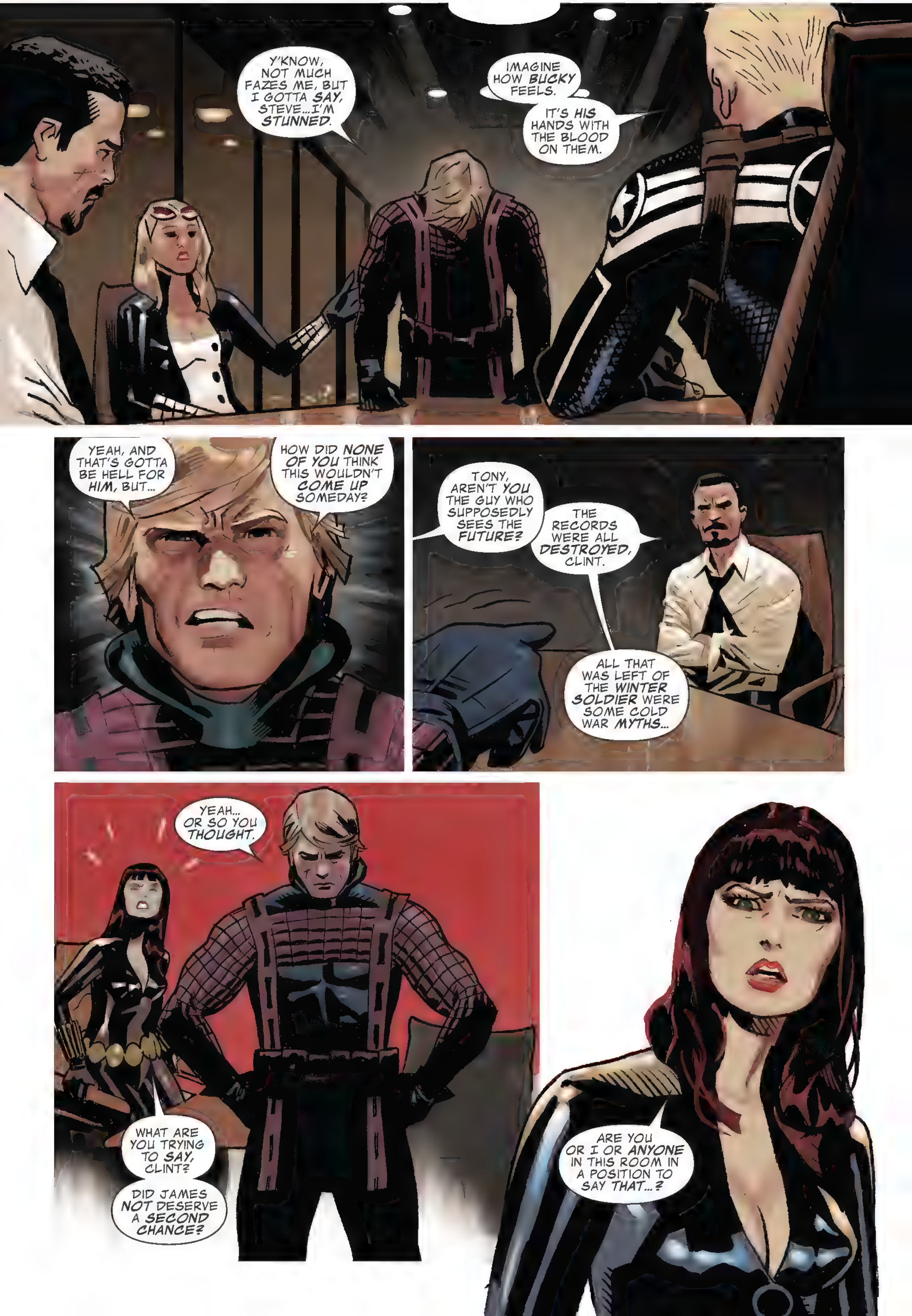

"WHEN THE RUSSIANS FISHED BUCKY OUT OF THE ENGLISH CHANNEL, HE WAS DEAD...
"AND WHEN THEY REVIVED HIM, ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS SENSE MEMORY.
"HE HAD HIS SKILLS, BUT NO IDEA WHO HE REALLY WAS.
"EVERYTHING THEY MADE HIM DO WAS PROGRAMMED INTO HIM BY DEPARTMENT X..."
BUT HE'S GOT HIS MEMORIES BACK NOW? HOW DOES THAT WORK?
I USED A POWERFUL ARTIFACT TO MAKE HIS MIND WHOLE AGAIN.
AND IT NEARLY DROVE HIM INSANE...

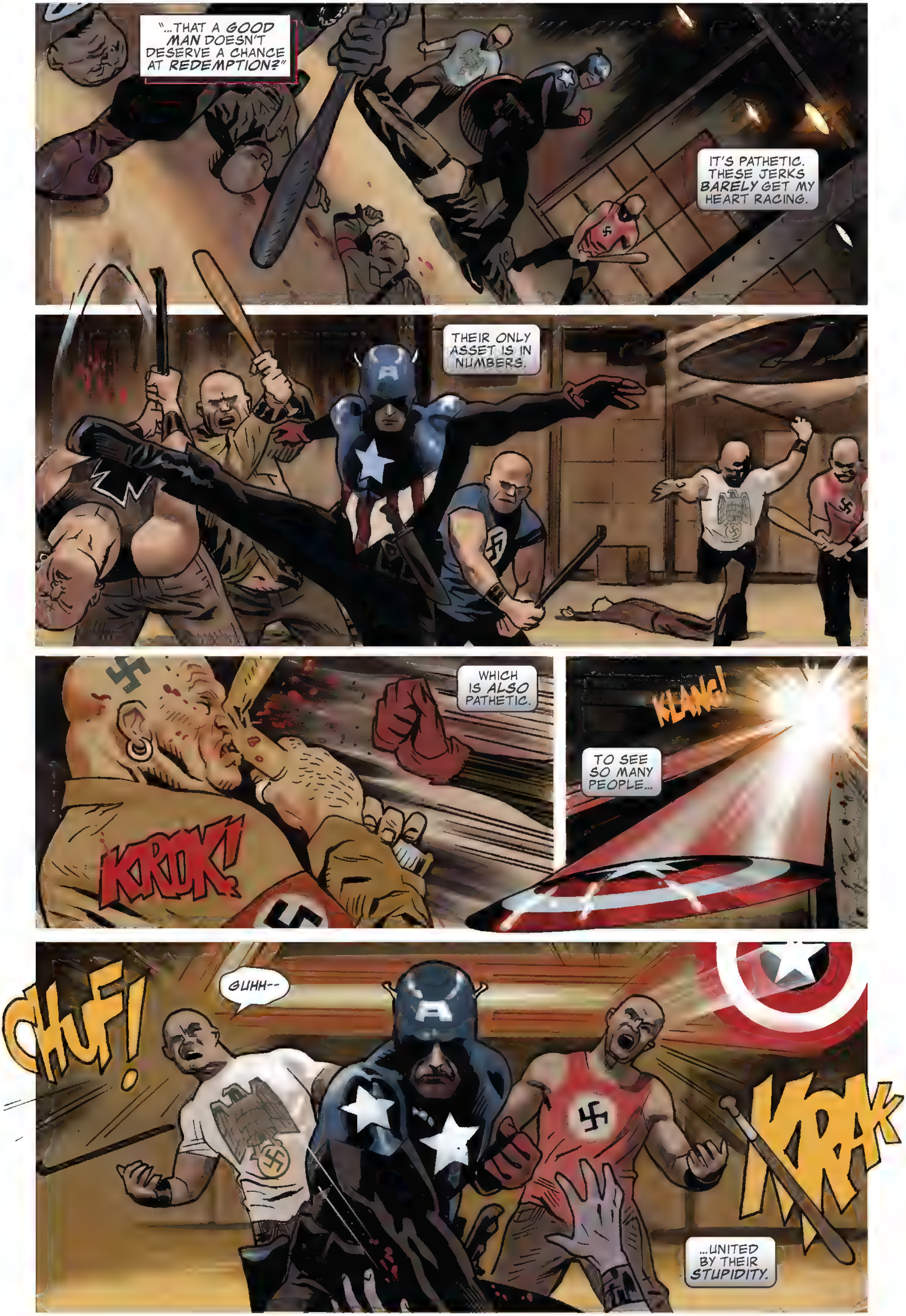

OKAY, THIS FILE IS ALL GOOD STUFF...
THIS'LL GO A LONG WAY IN HIS DEFENSE, IF WE CAN VERIFY IT.
I'M HOPING IT WON'T COME TO THAT...
...BUT THERE'S ALSO THIS...
...WHICH IS MORE RECENT.
YEAH... THIS IS BAD.
HE WAS STILL NOT HIMSELF...BEING CONTROLLED BY THE RED SKULL...
WELL, I HOPE TO GOD YOU'VE GOT A WAY TO VERIFY THAT TOO, ROGERS.
GOD...DO WE EVEN KNOW WHERE BARNES IS RIGHT NOW?
YES... HE'S DOING WHAT HE'S SUPPOSED TO DO.

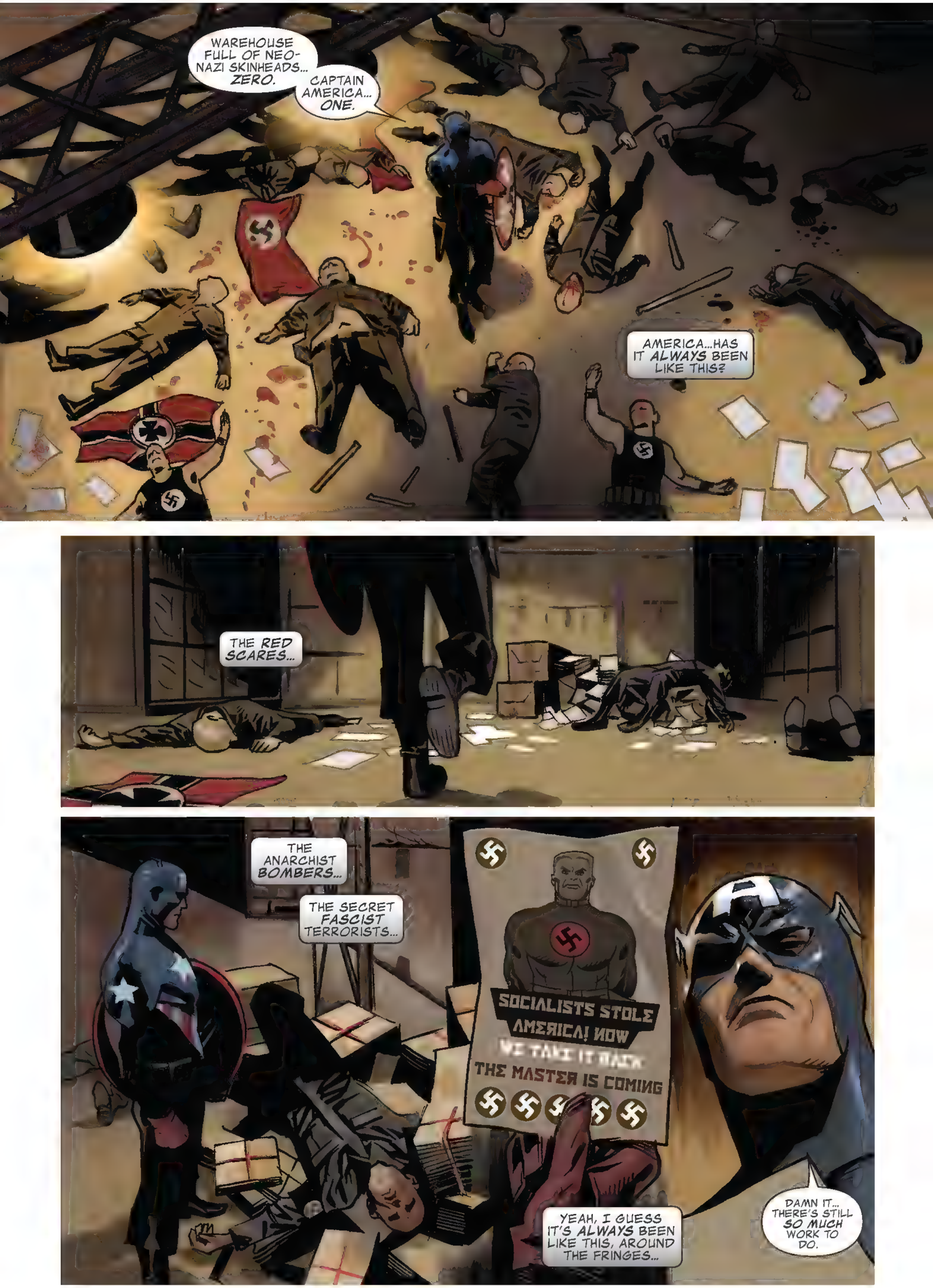

STEVE SAYS I CAN'T LET A MEDIA #@$%-STORM GET IN THE WAY OF DOING MY JOB...
TRIVOLI
...AND *MAYBE* HE'S RIGHT.
BUT IN MY HEART I *KNOW* I'M JUST TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH SOME GOOD...
...WHILE I STILL *HAVE* THE JOB.
AND WE WILL NOT SURREN--

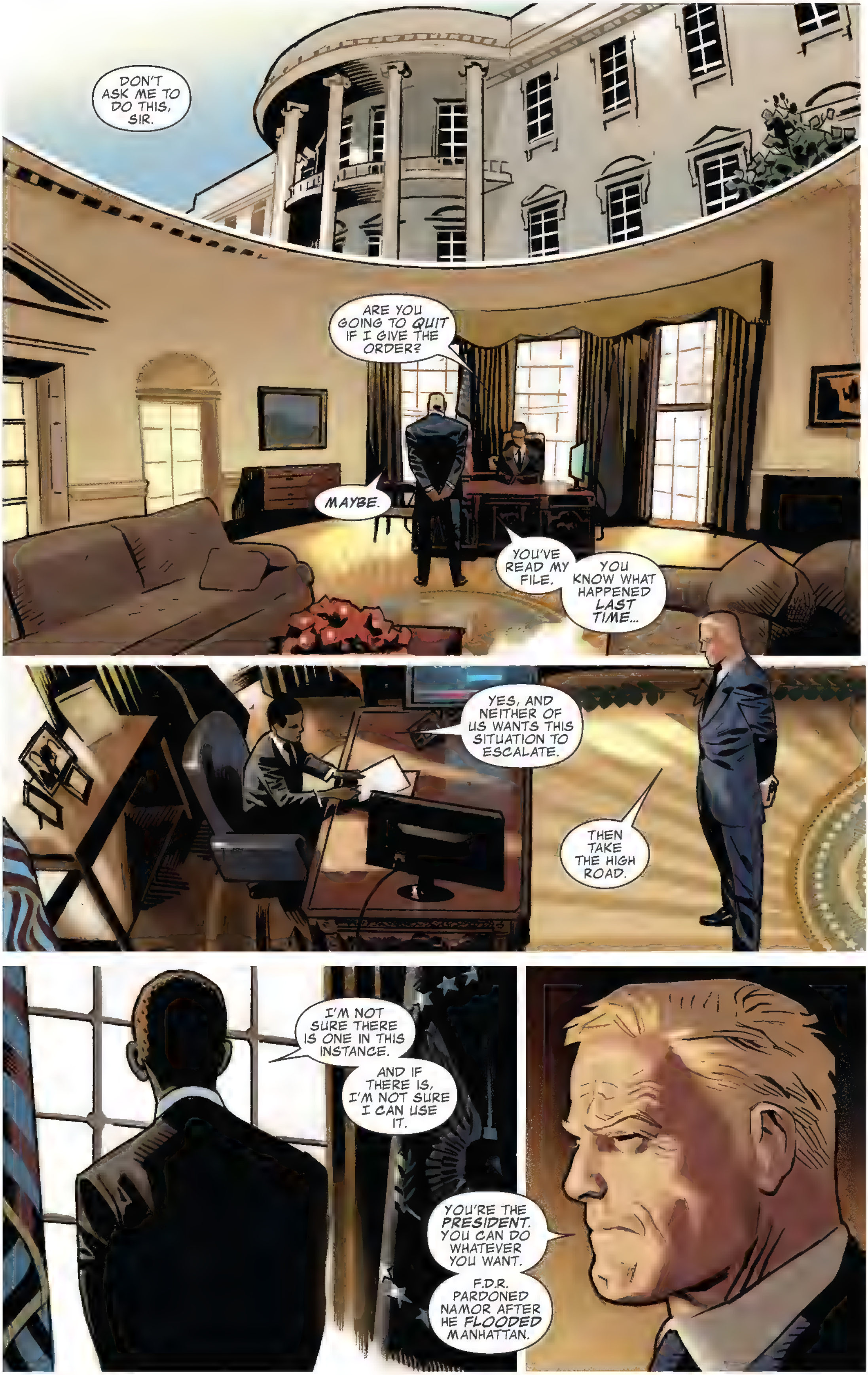

SKRRASSH
BUT THERE'S ONE *OTHER* THING I KNOW...
--AAH!
KRAAAK
SORRY, FELLAS...
...TAKING OUT GUYS WEARING *SWASTIKAS* NEVER GETS OLD.
BLAM BLAM
...YOU PICKED THE *WRONG NIGHT* TO BE NAZIS IN NEW YORK!
KNNCH

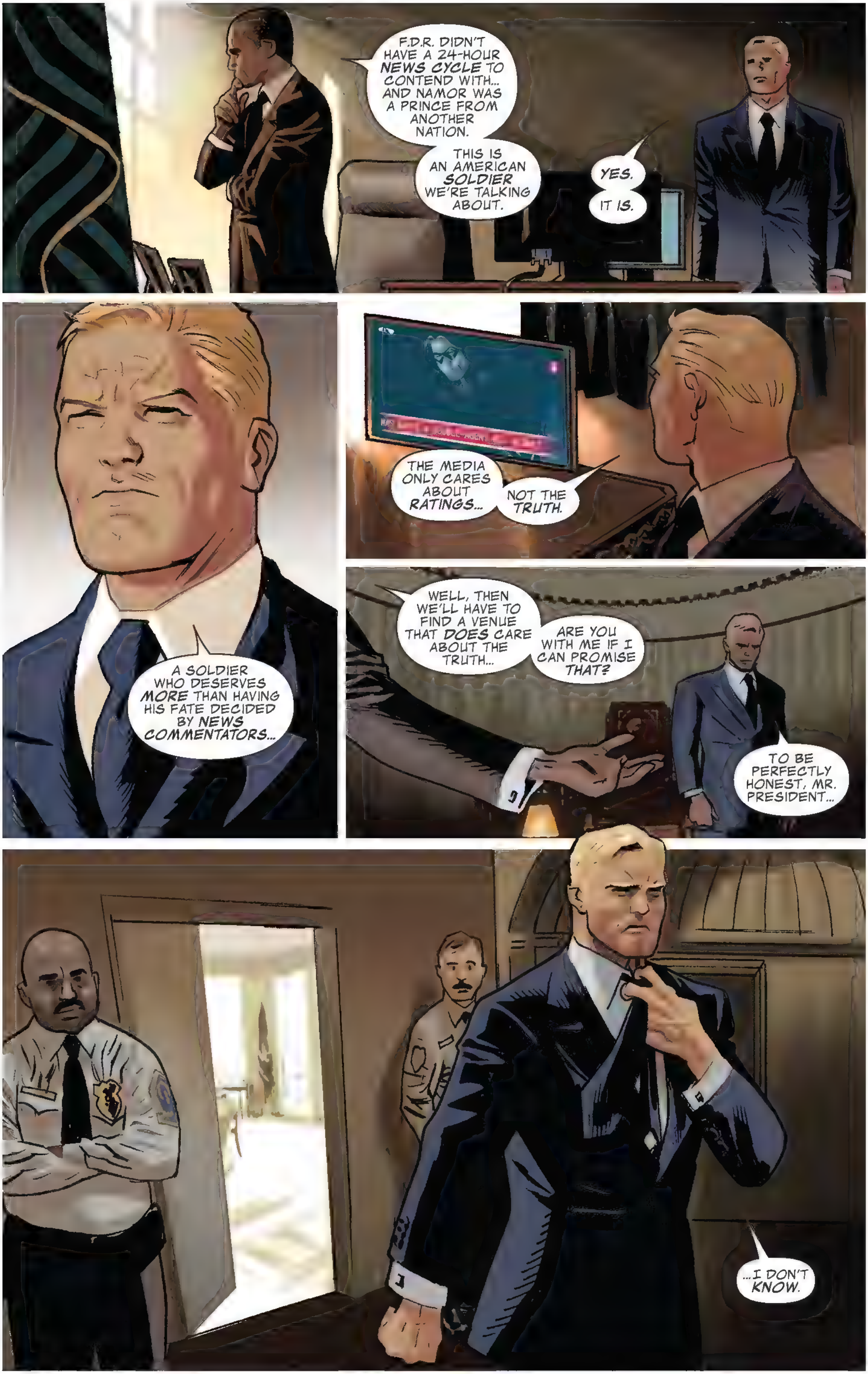

IS THIS SOME KINDA *SICK JOKE?*
I'M *SURE* IT FEELS THAT WAY TO BUCKY. IN FACT, I *KNOW* IT DOES.
THE *BOMBING* OF DOWNTOWN PHILLY WAS *HIM?*
YOU KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE *DIED* IN THAT BLAST?
HE WAS BEING *USED,* CLINT...UNDER *MIND-CONTROL...*
STILL... MY GOD...
AND HE KILLED *NOMAD?*
JACK MONROE, *YES.*
JACK WAS MEANT TO BE THE *FALL GUY* IN THE OPERATION, APPARENTLY.

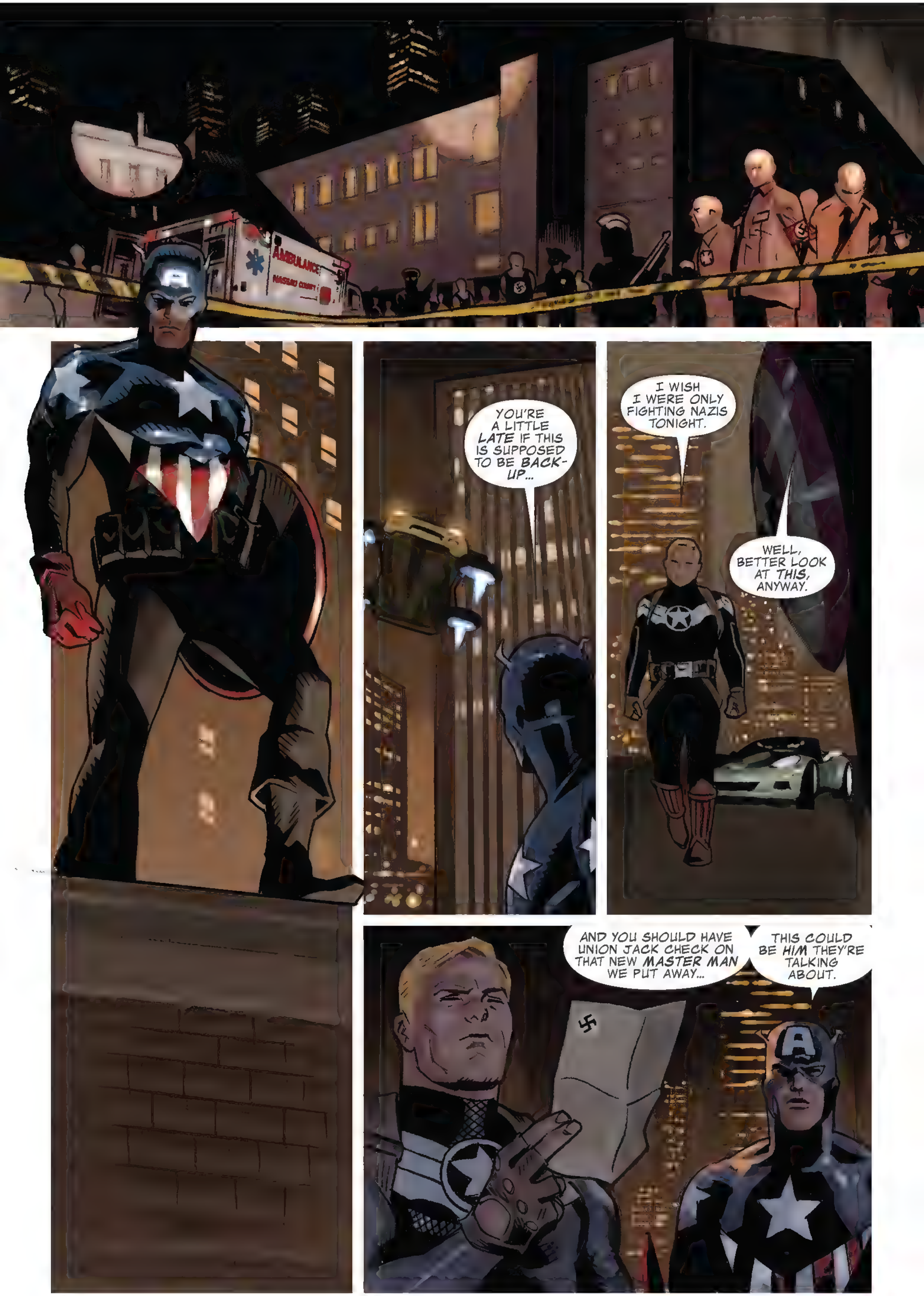

Y'KNOW, NOT MUCH FAZES ME, BUT I GOTTA SAY, STEVE...I'M STUNNED.
IMAGINE HOW BUCKY FEELS.
IT'S HIS HANDS WITH THE BLOOD ON THEM.
YEAH, AND THAT'S GOTTA BE HELL FOR HIM, BUT...
HOW DID NONE OF YOU THINK THIS WOULDN'T COME UP SOMEDAY?
TONY, AREN'T YOU THE GUY WHO SUPPOSEDLY SEES THE FUTURE?
THE RECORDS WERE ALL DESTROYED, CLINT.
ALL THAT WAS LEFT OF THE WINTER SOLDIER WERE SOME COLD WAR MYTHS...
YEAH... OR SO YOU THOUGHT.
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, CLINT?
DID JAMES NOT DESERVE A SECOND CHANCE?
ARE YOU OR I OR ANYONE IN THIS ROOM IN A POSITION TO SAY THAT...?

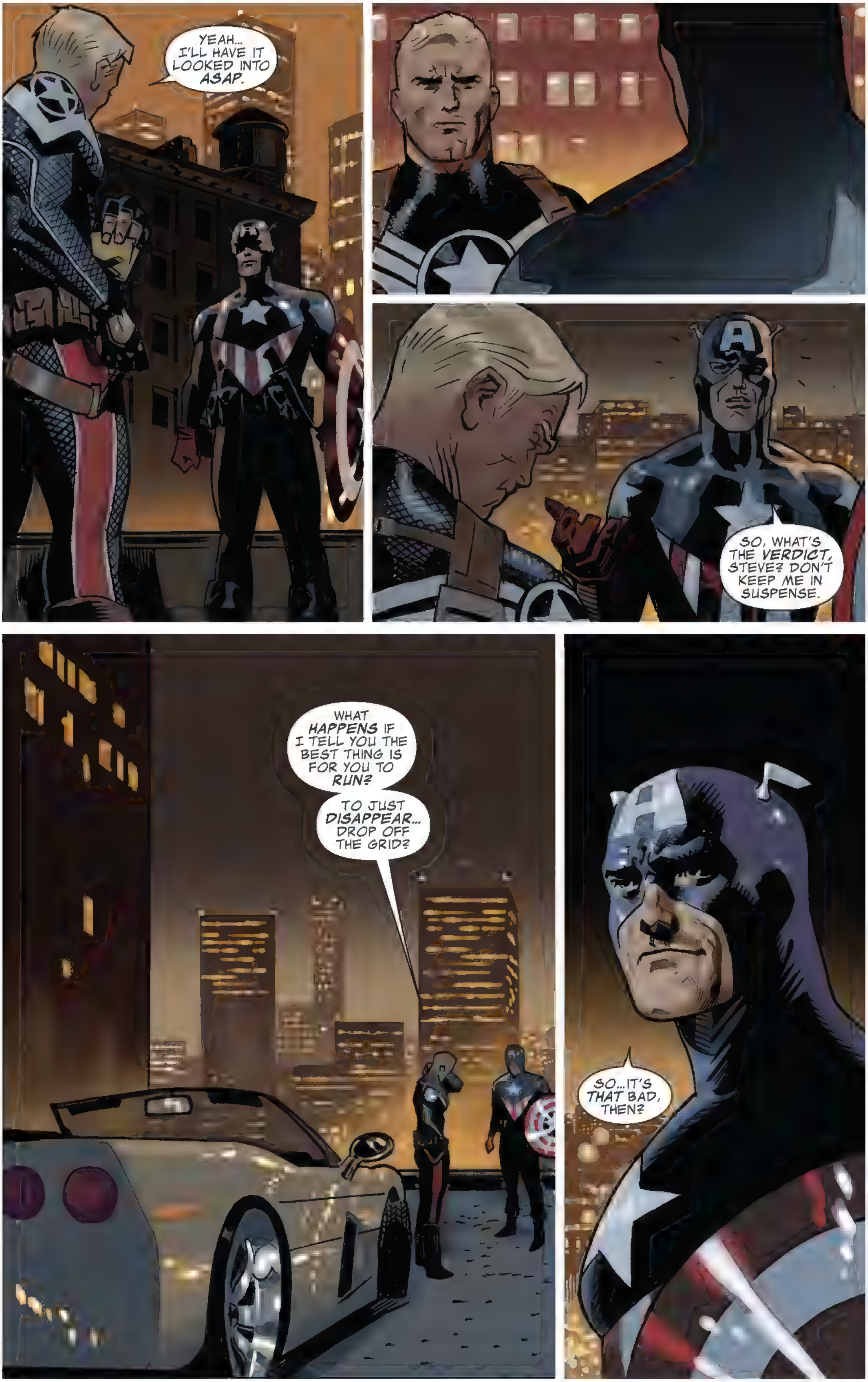

"...THAT A GOOD MAN DOESN'T DESERVE A CHANCE AT REDEMPTION?"
IT'S PATHETIC. THESE JERKS BARELY GET MY HEART RACING.
THEIR ONLY ASSET IS IN NUMBERS.
WHICH IS ALSO PATHETIC.
KROK!
KLANG!
TO SEE SO MANY PEOPLE...
CHUF!
GUHH--
KRAK
...UNITED BY THEIR STUPIDITY.

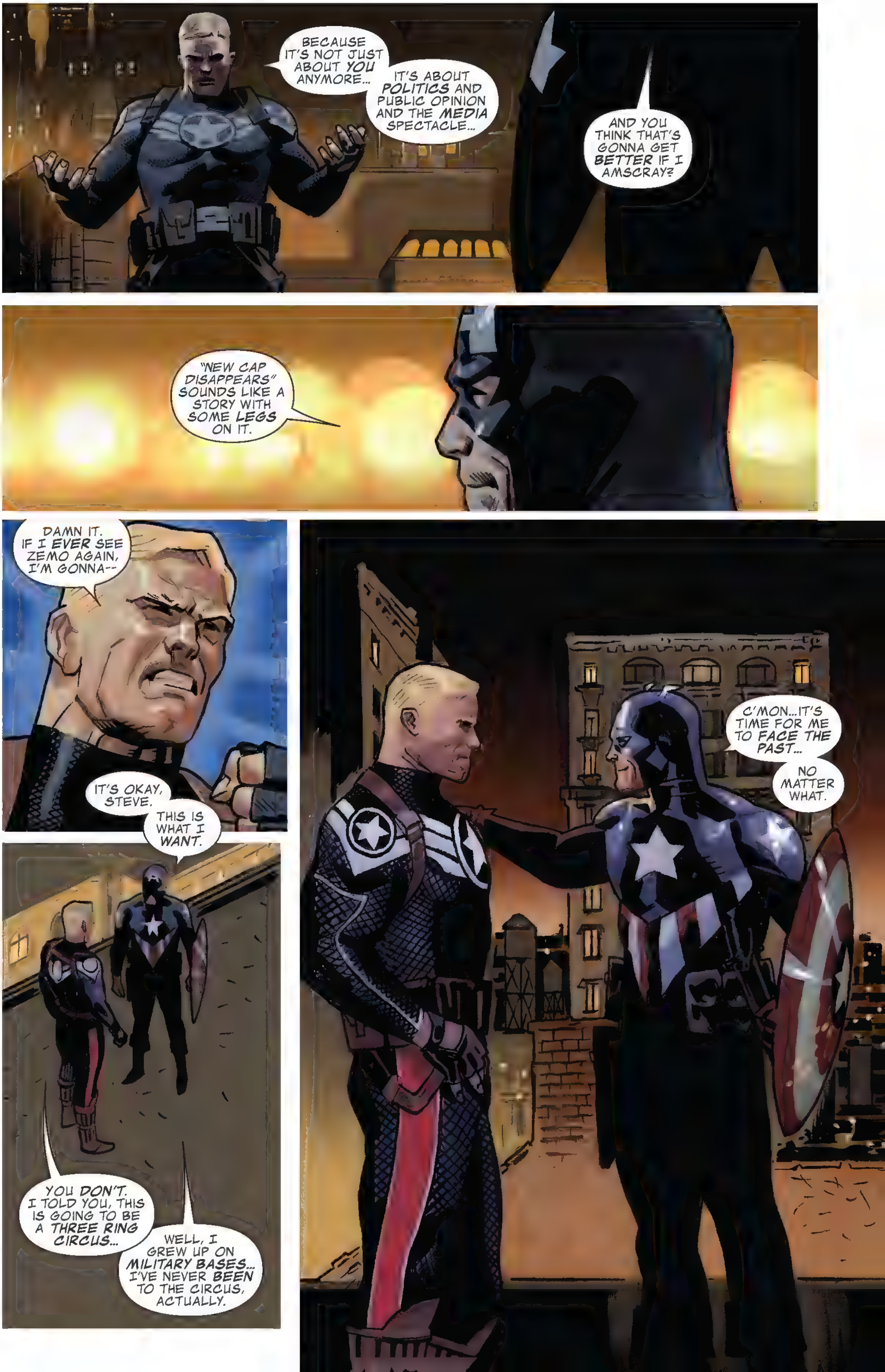

WAREHOUSE FULL OF NEO-NAZI SKINHEADS... *ZERO.*
CAPTAIN AMERICA... *ONE.*
AMERICA...HAS IT *ALWAYS* BEEN LIKE THIS?
THE *RED SCARES...*
THE ANARCHIST *BOMBERS...*
THE SECRET *FASCIST* TERRORISTS...
SOCIALISTS STOLE AMERICA! NOW WE TAKE IT BACK
THE MASTER IS COMING
YEAH, I GUESS IT'S *ALWAYS* BEEN LIKE THIS, AROUND THE FRINGES...
DAMN IT... THERE'S STILL *SO MUCH* WORK TO DO.

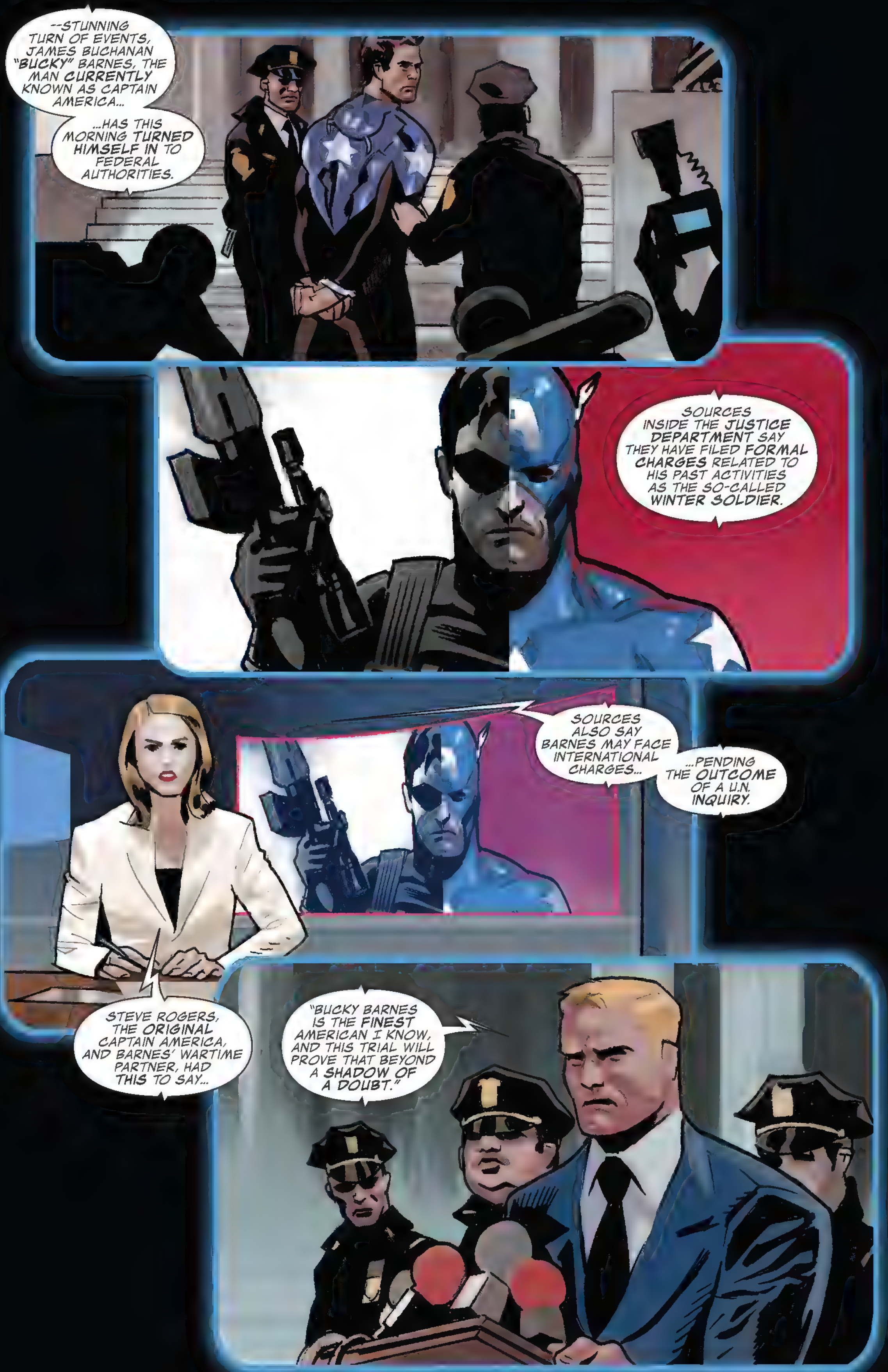

DON'T ASK ME TO DO THIS, SIR.
ARE YOU GOING TO *QUIT* IF I GIVE THE ORDER?
MAYBE.
YOU'VE READ MY FILE.
YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED *LAST TIME*...
YES, AND NEITHER OF US WANTS THIS SITUATION TO ESCALATE.
THEN TAKE THE HIGH ROAD.
I'M NOT SURE THERE IS ONE IN THIS INSTANCE.
AND IF THERE IS, I'M NOT SURE I CAN USE IT.
YOU'RE THE *PRESIDENT*. YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
F.D.R. PARDONED NAMOR AFTER HE *FLOODED* MANHATTAN.

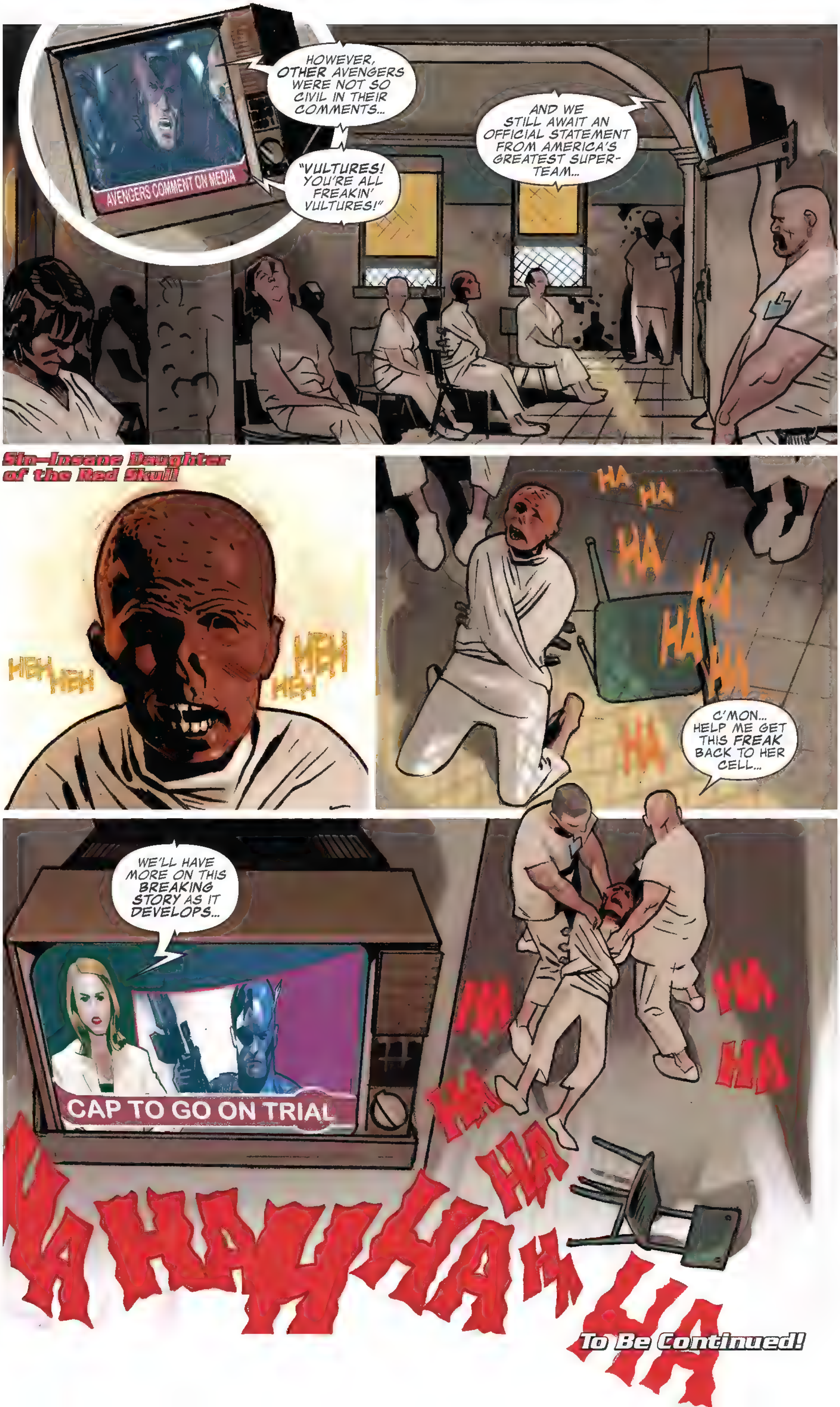

F.D.R. DIDN'T HAVE A 24-HOUR *NEWS CYCLE* TO CONTEND WITH... AND NAMOR WAS A PRINCE FROM ANOTHER NATION.
THIS IS AN AMERICAN *SOLDIER* WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.
YES.
IT *IS.*
A SOLDIER WHO DESERVES *MORE* THAN HAVING HIS FATE DECIDED BY *NEWS COMMENTATORS...*
THE MEDIA ONLY CARES ABOUT *RATINGS...*
NOT THE *TRUTH.*
WELL, THEN WE'LL HAVE TO FIND A VENUE THAT *DOES* CARE ABOUT THE TRUTH...
ARE YOU WITH ME IF I CAN PROMISE *THAT?*
TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST, MR. PRESIDENT...
...I DON'T *KNOW.*


AMBULANCE
NASSAU COUNTY
YOU'RE A LITTLE *LATE* IF THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE *BACK-UP*...
I WISH I WERE ONLY FIGHTING NAZIS TONIGHT.
WELL, BETTER LOOK AT *THIS*, ANYWAY.
AND YOU SHOULD HAVE UNION JACK CHECK ON THAT NEW *MASTER MAN* WE PUT AWAY...
THIS COULD BE *HIM* THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT.


YEAH... I'LL HAVE IT LOOKED INTO *ASAP*.
SO, WHAT'S THE *VERDICT*, STEVE? DON'T KEEP ME IN SUSPENSE.
WHAT *HAPPENS* IF I TELL YOU THE BEST THING IS FOR YOU TO *RUN*?
TO JUST *DISAPPEAR*... DROP OFF THE GRID?
SO...IT'S *THAT* BAD, THEN?


BECAUSE IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT *YOU* ANYMORE...
IT'S ABOUT ***POLITICS*** AND PUBLIC OPINION AND THE ***MEDIA*** SPECTACLE...
AND YOU THINK THAT'S GONNA GET ***BETTER*** IF I AMSCRAY?
"NEW CAP DISAPPEARS" SOUNDS LIKE A STORY WITH SOME ***LEGS*** ON IT.
DAMN IT. IF I ***EVER*** SEE ZEMO AGAIN, I'M GONNA--
IT'S OKAY, STEVE.
THIS IS WHAT I *WANT*.
YOU *DON'T*. I TOLD YOU, THIS IS GOING TO BE A ***THREE RING CIRCUS***...
WELL, I GREW UP ON ***MILITARY BASES***... I'VE NEVER ***BEEN*** TO THE CIRCUS, ACTUALLY.
C'MON...IT'S TIME FOR ME TO ***FACE THE PAST***...
NO MATTER WHAT.


--STUNNING TURN OF EVENTS, JAMES BUCHANAN "BUCKY" BARNES, THE MAN CURRENTLY KNOWN AS CAPTAIN AMERICA...
...HAS THIS MORNING TURNED HIMSELF IN TO FEDERAL AUTHORITIES.
SOURCES INSIDE THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SAY THEY HAVE FILED FORMAL CHARGES RELATED TO HIS PAST ACTIVITIES AS THE SO-CALLED WINTER SOLDIER.
SOURCES ALSO SAY BARNES MAY FACE INTERNATIONAL CHARGES...
...PENDING THE OUTCOME OF A U.N. INQUIRY.
STEVE ROGERS, THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN AMERICA, AND BARNES' WARTIME PARTNER, HAD THIS TO SAY...
"BUCKY BARNES IS THE FINEST AMERICAN I KNOW, AND THIS TRIAL WILL PROVE THAT BEYOND A SHADOW OF A DOUBT."


HOWEVER, OTHER AVENGERS WERE NOT SO CIVIL IN THEIR COMMENTS...
AVENGERS COMMENT ON MEDIA
"VULTURES! YOU'RE ALL FREAKIN' VULTURES!"
AND WE STILL AWAIT AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM AMERICA'S GREATEST SUPER-TEAM...
Sin—Insane Daughter of the Red Skull
HEH HEH
HEH HEH
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
C'MON... HELP ME GET THIS FREAK BACK TO HER CELL...
WE'LL HAVE MORE ON THIS BREAKING STORY AS IT DEVELOPS...
CAP TO GO ON TRIAL
HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
To Be Continued!

MARVEL

612

BRUBAKER GUICE BREITWEISER

CAPTAIN AMERICA

ALSO FEATURING
NOMAD

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Is Begun
ngress Takes
Prompt Action

CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But Bucky has a dark and secret past as the Winter Soldier - an assassin trained, employed, and mentally manipulated by the KGB to stymie U.S. efforts in the Cold War. A past that Baron Zemo has exposed to the world. And with the media frenzy building, Steve Rogers can't stand to see his wartime partner's name stained any more; he knows Bucky wasn't acting of his own accord, and he is determined to prove it. For now, though, it seems that Bucky Barnes' run as Captain America is over: he turns himself in...to await the trial that will decide his fate.

THE TRIAL OF CAPTAIN AMERICA part 2

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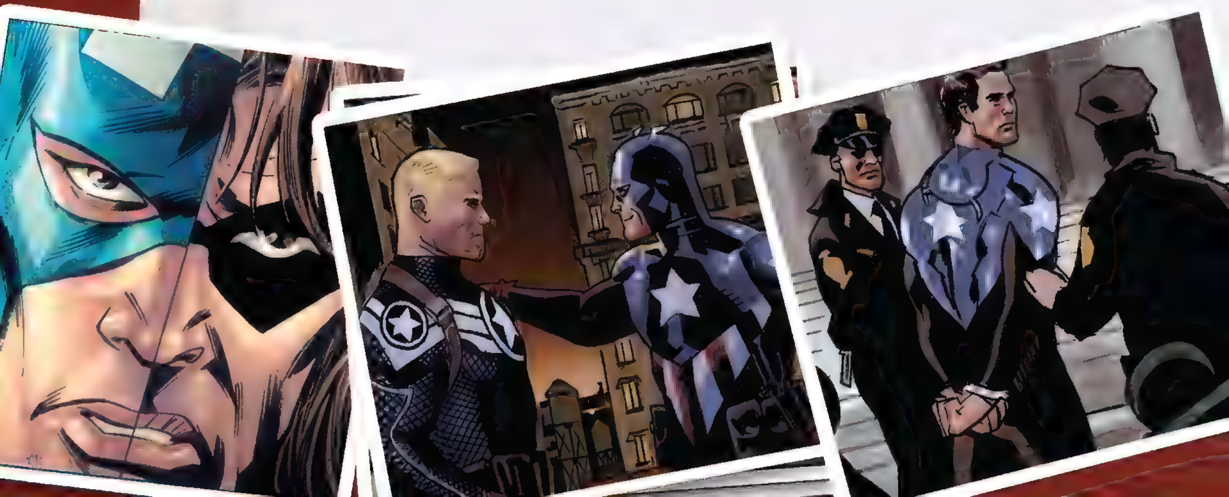
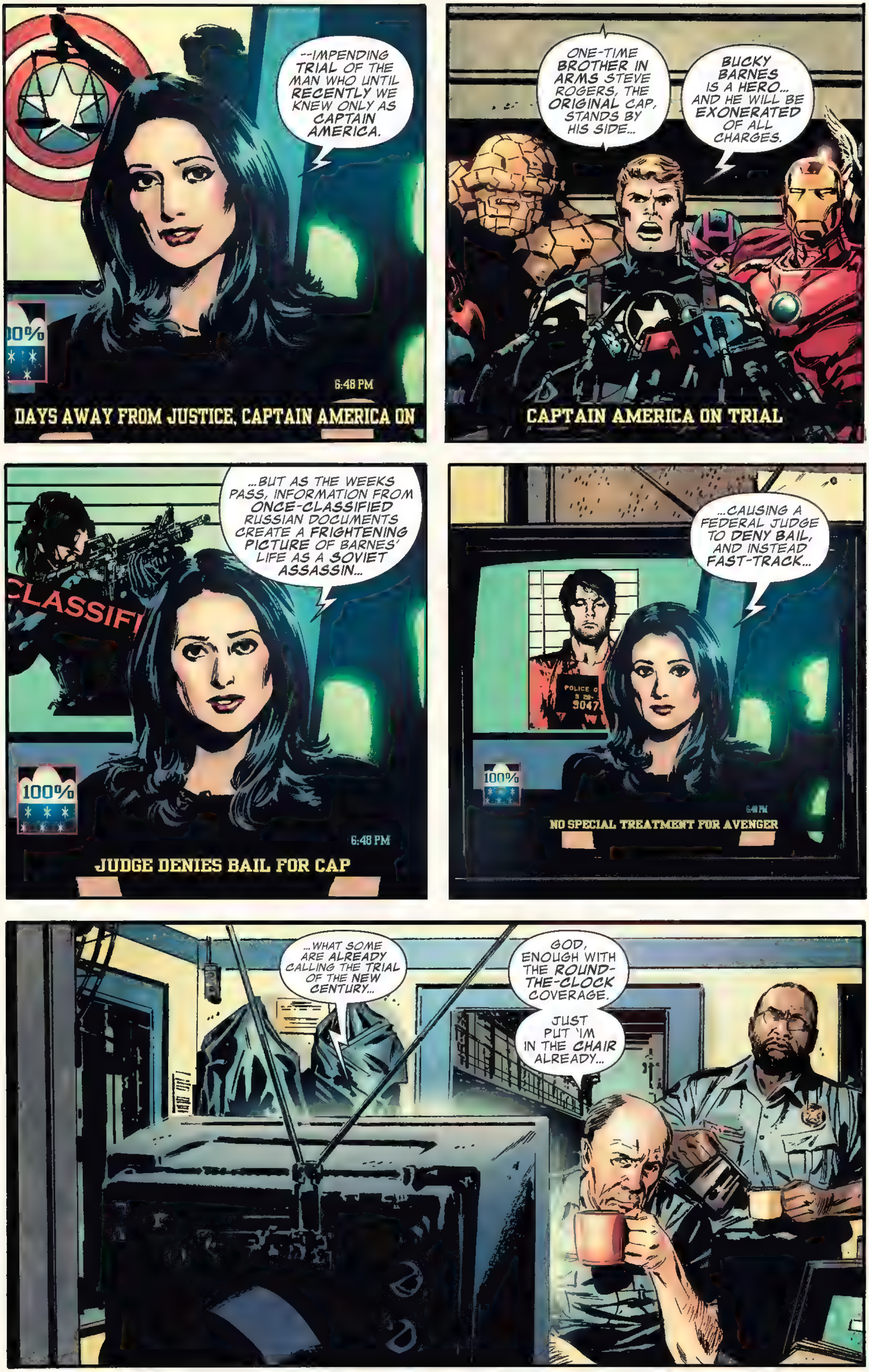
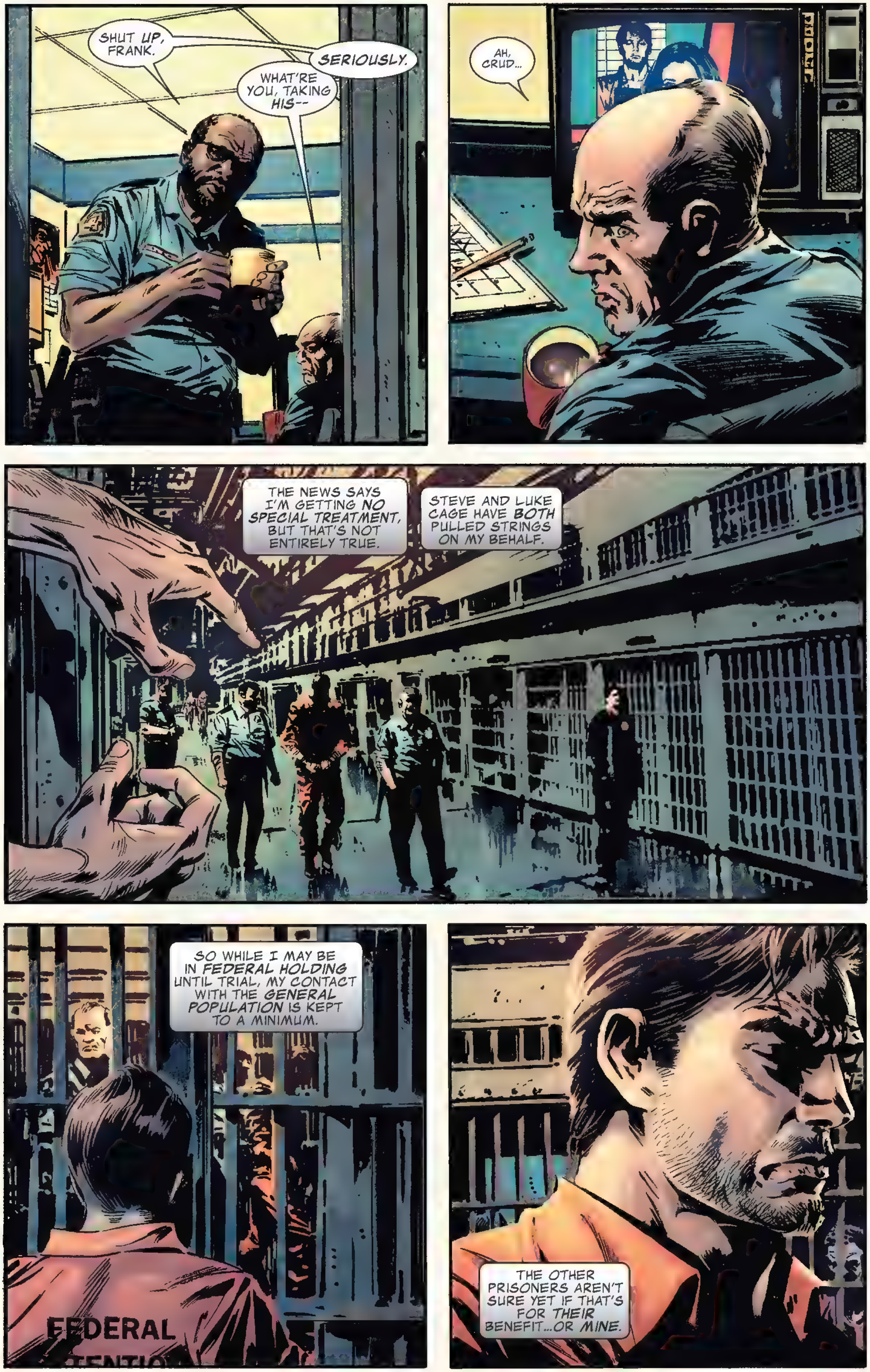
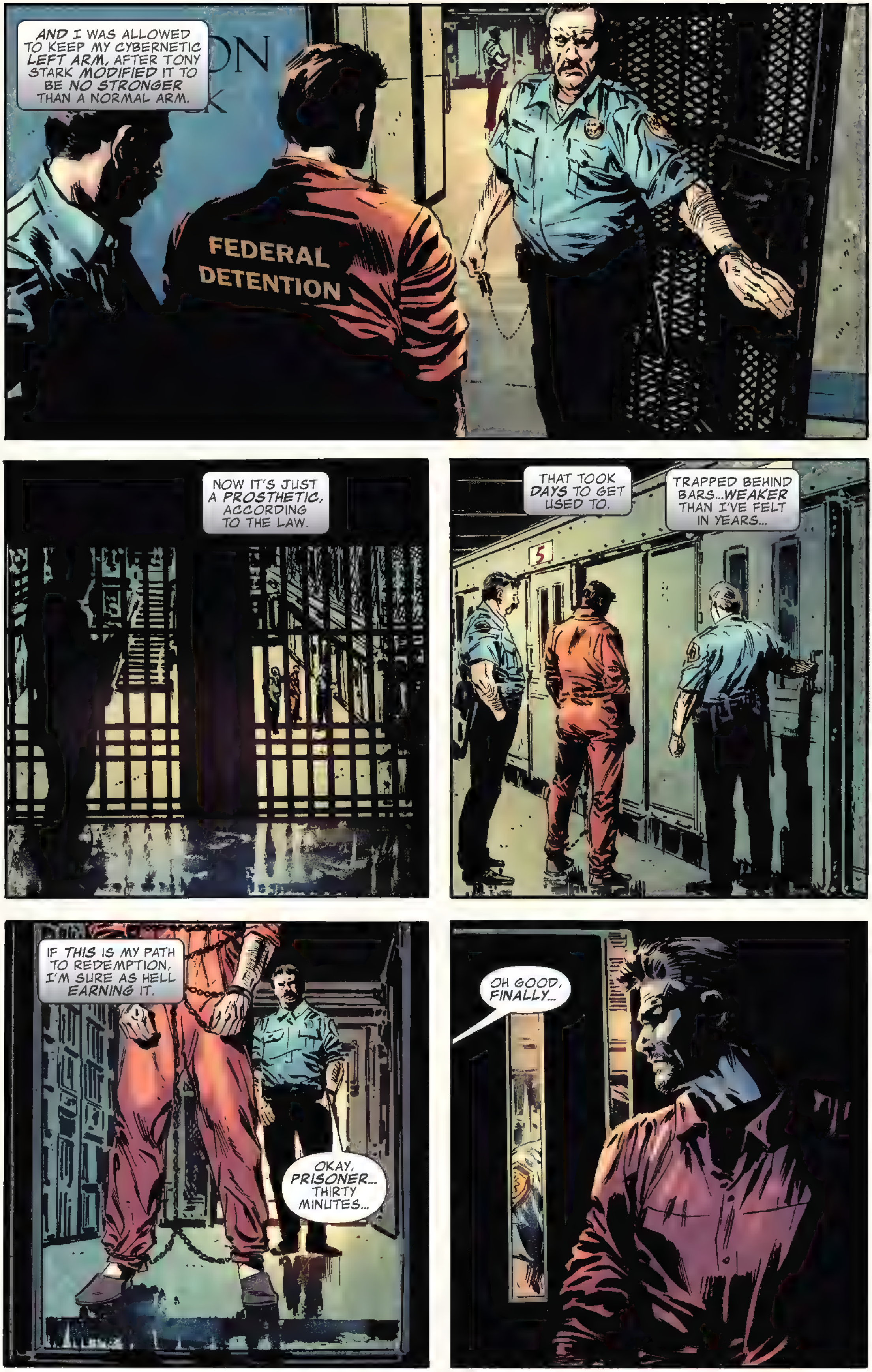
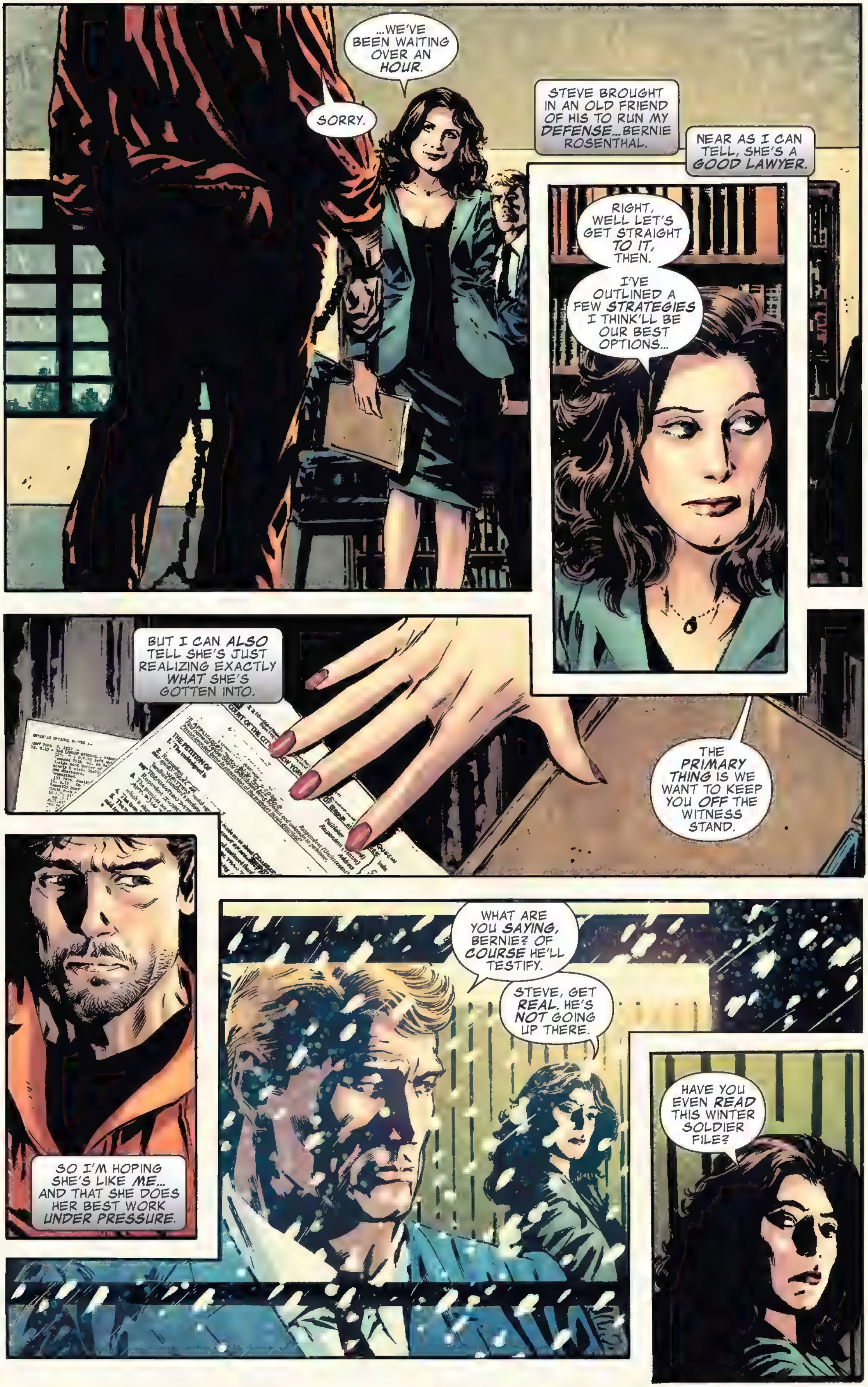
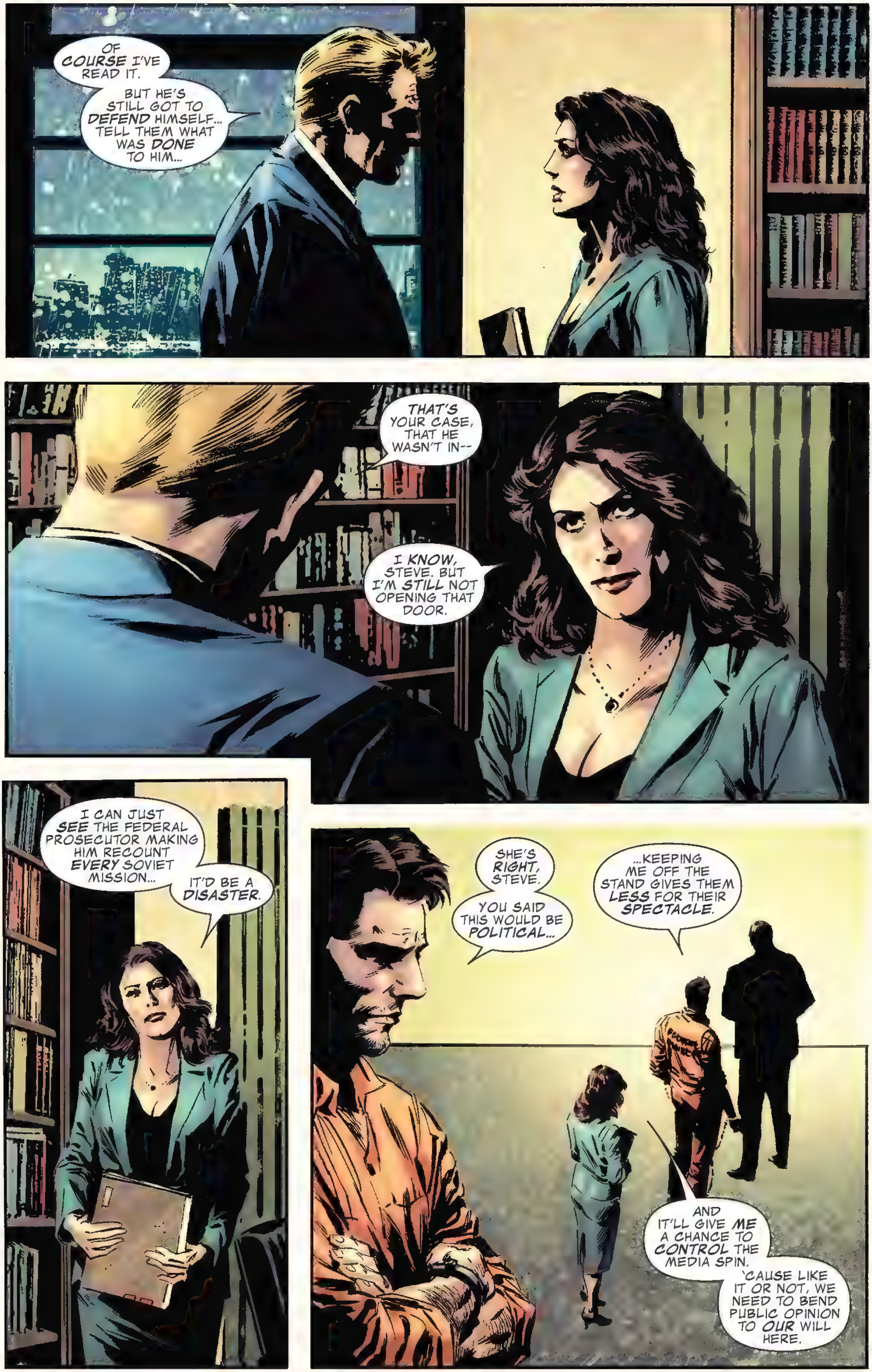


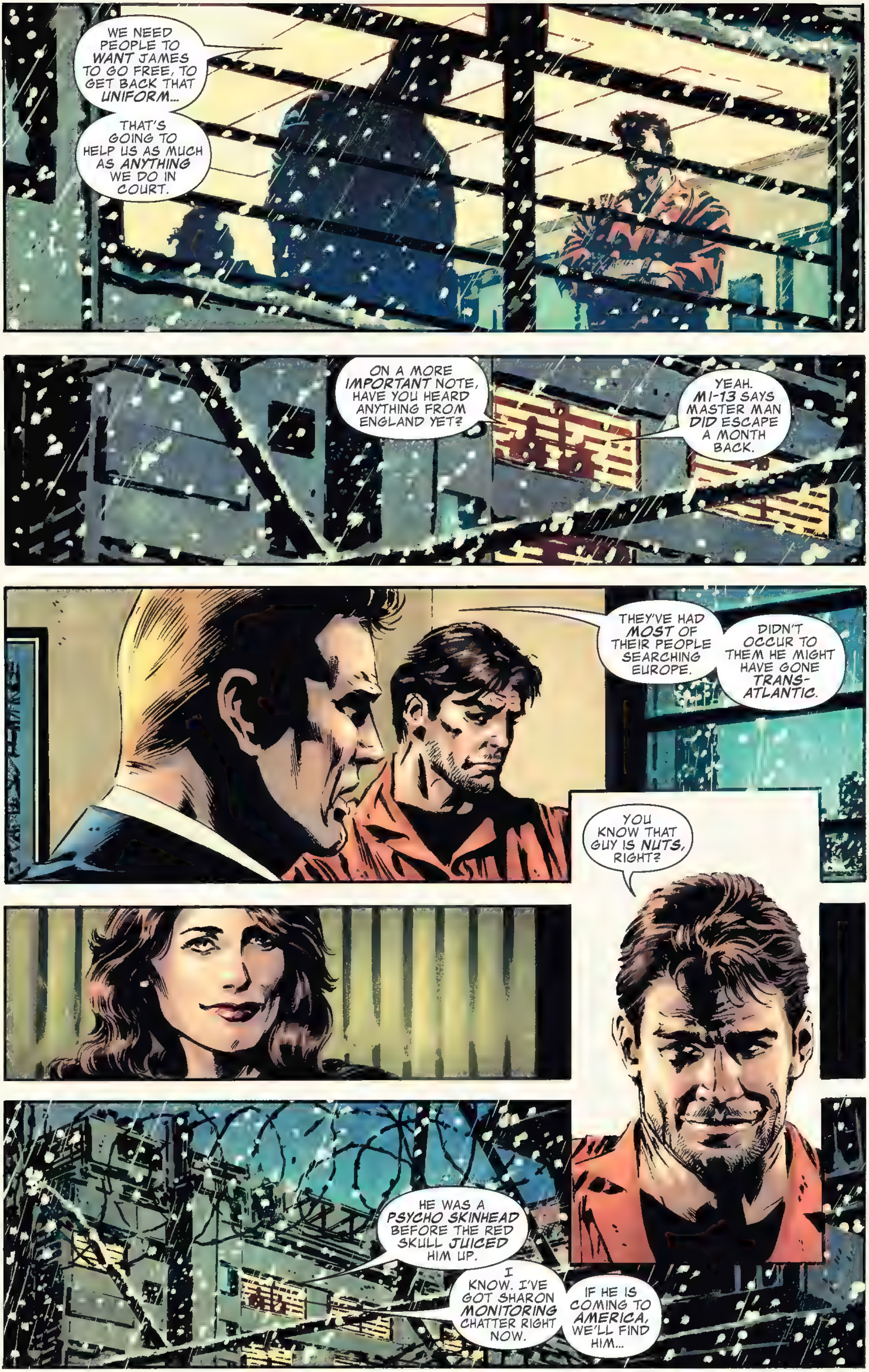

--IMPENDING TRIAL OF THE MAN WHO UNTIL RECENTLY WE KNEW ONLY AS CAPTAIN AMERICA.
6:48 PM
DAYS AWAY FROM JUSTICE, CAPTAIN AMERICA ON
ONE-TIME BROTHER IN ARMS STEVE ROGERS, THE ORIGINAL CAP, STANDS BY HIS SIDE...
BUCKY BARNES IS A HERO... AND HE WILL BE EXONERATED OF ALL CHARGES.
CAPTAIN AMERICA ON TRIAL
...BUT AS THE WEEKS PASS, INFORMATION FROM ONCE-CLASSIFIED RUSSIAN DOCUMENTS CREATE A FRIGHTENING PICTURE OF BARNES' LIFE AS A SOVIET ASSASSIN...
CLASSIFI
100%
6:48 PM
JUDGE DENIES BAIL FOR CAP
...CAUSING A FEDERAL JUDGE TO DENY BAIL, AND INSTEAD FAST-TRACK...
POLICE
9047
100%
6:48 PM
NO SPECIAL TREATMENT FOR AVENGER
...WHAT SOME ARE ALREADY CALLING THE TRIAL OF THE NEW CENTURY...
GOD, ENOUGH WITH THE ROUND-THE-CLOCK COVERAGE.
JUST PUT 'IM IN THE CHAIR ALREADY...

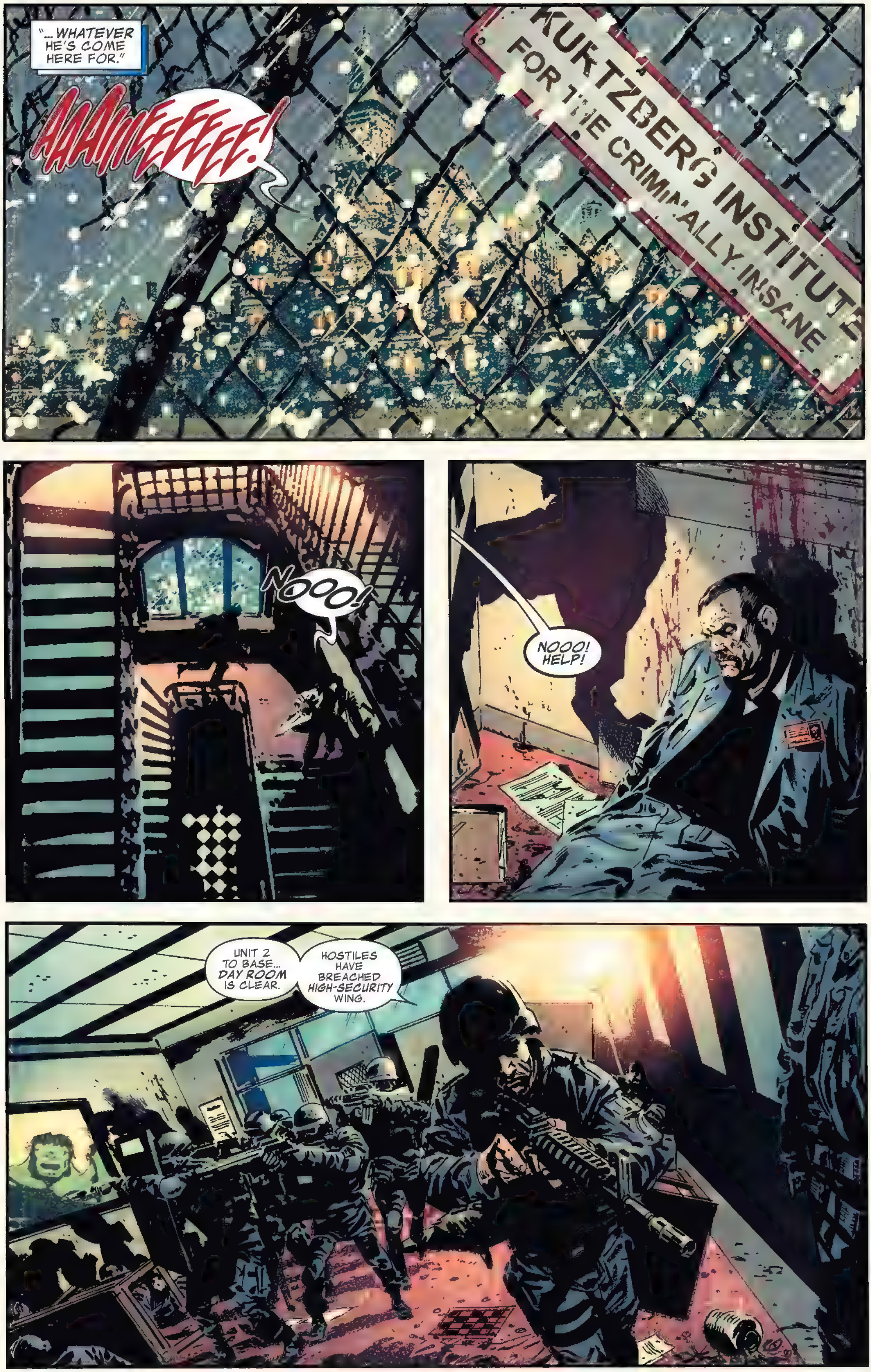

SHUT UP, FRANK.
SERIOUSLY.
WHAT'RE YOU, TAKING HIS--
AH, CRUD...
THE NEWS SAYS I'M GETTING NO SPECIAL TREATMENT, BUT THAT'S NOT ENTIRELY TRUE.
STEVE AND LUKE CAGE HAVE BOTH PULLED STRINGS ON MY BEHALF.
SO WHILE I MAY BE IN FEDERAL HOLDING UNTIL TRIAL, MY CONTACT WITH THE GENERAL POPULATION IS KEPT TO A MINIMUM.
FEDERAL
THE OTHER PRISONERS AREN'T SURE YET IF THAT'S FOR THEIR BENEFIT...OR MINE.

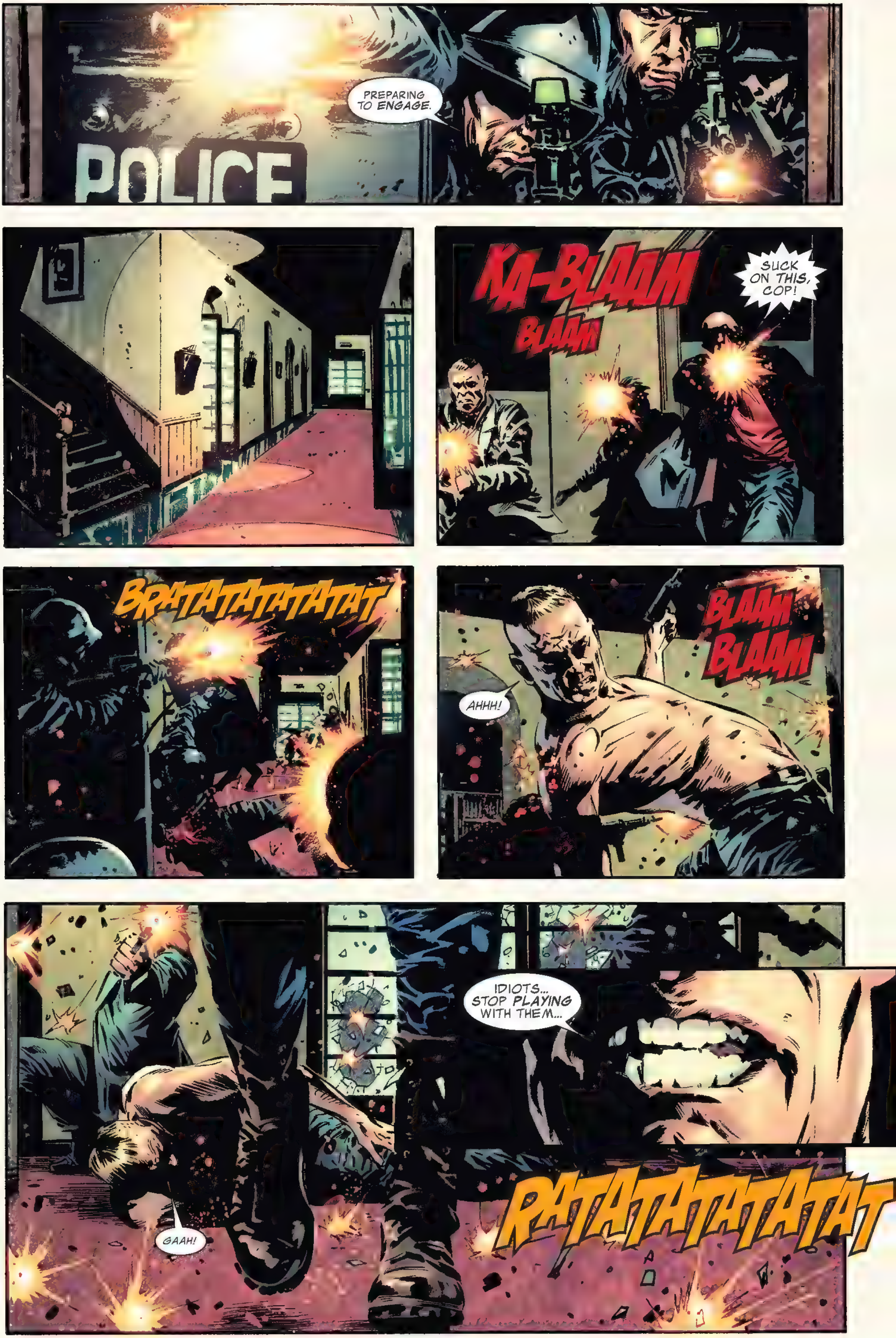

AND I WAS ALLOWED TO KEEP MY CYBERNETIC LEFT ARM, AFTER TONY STARK MODIFIED IT TO BE NO STRONGER THAN A NORMAL ARM.
FEDERAL DETENTION
NOW IT'S JUST A PROSTHETIC, ACCORDING TO THE LAW.
THAT TOOK DAYS TO GET USED TO.
TRAPPED BEHIND BARS...WEAKER THAN I'VE FELT IN YEARS...
5
IF THIS IS MY PATH TO REDEMPTION, I'M SURE AS HELL EARNING IT.
OKAY, PRISONER... THIRTY MINUTES...
OH GOOD, FINALLY...

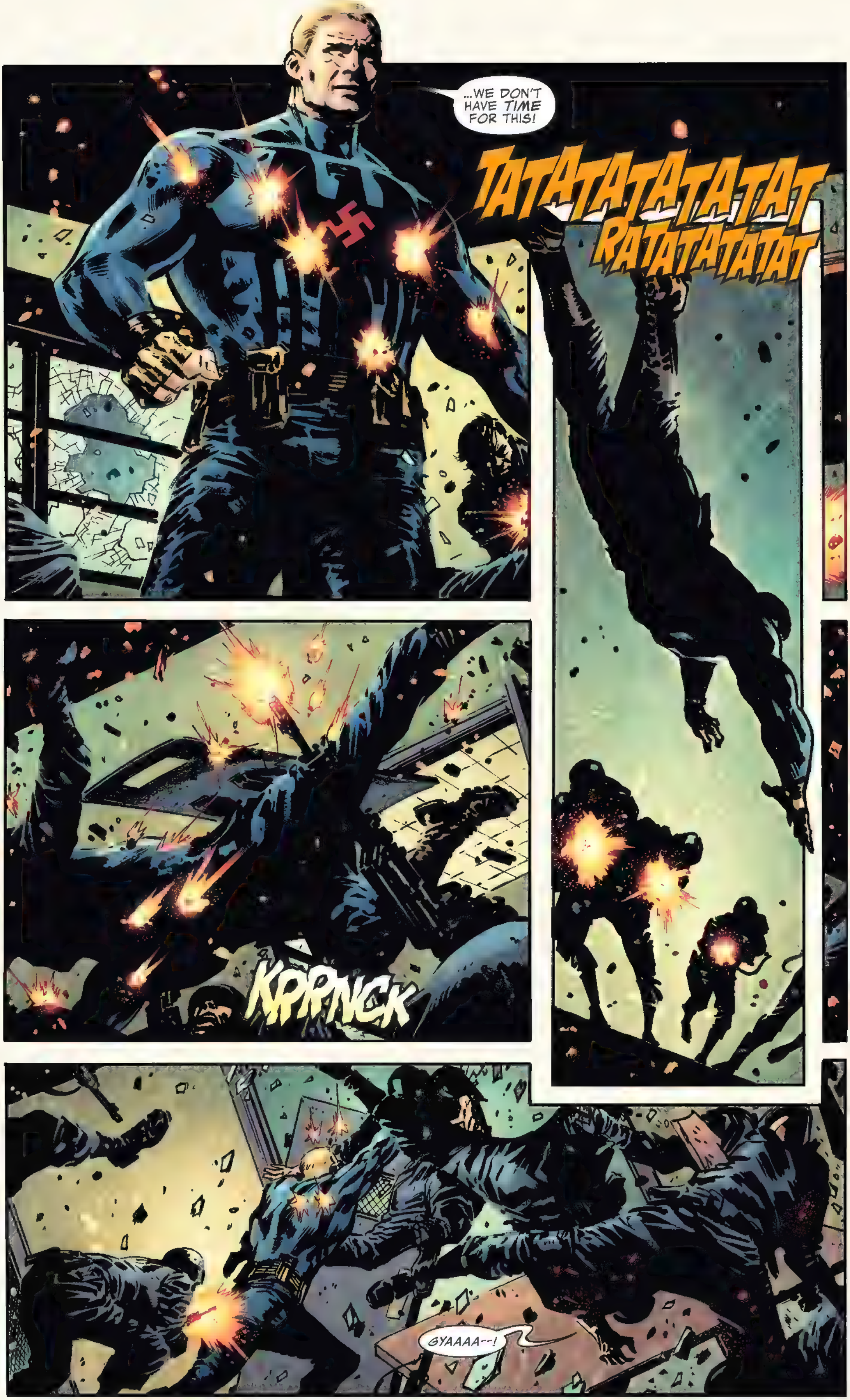

...WE'VE BEEN WAITING OVER AN *HOUR*.
SORRY.
STEVE BROUGHT IN AN OLD FRIEND OF HIS TO RUN MY *DEFENSE*...BERNIE ROSENTHAL.
NEAR AS I CAN TELL, SHE'S A *GOOD LAWYER*.
RIGHT, WELL LET'S GET STRAIGHT *TO IT*, THEN.
I'VE OUTLINED A FEW *STRATEGIES* I THINK'LL BE OUR BEST OPTIONS...
BUT I CAN *ALSO* TELL SHE'S JUST REALIZING EXACTLY *WHAT* SHE'S GOTTEN INTO.
THE *PRIMARY THING* IS WE WANT TO KEEP YOU *OFF* THE WITNESS STAND.
SO I'M HOPING SHE'S LIKE *ME*... AND THAT SHE DOES HER BEST WORK *UNDER PRESSURE*.
WHAT ARE YOU *SAYING*, BERNIE? OF *COURSE* HE'LL TESTIFY.
STEVE, GET *REAL*. HE'S *NOT* GOING UP THERE.
HAVE YOU EVEN *READ* THIS WINTER SOLDIER FILE?

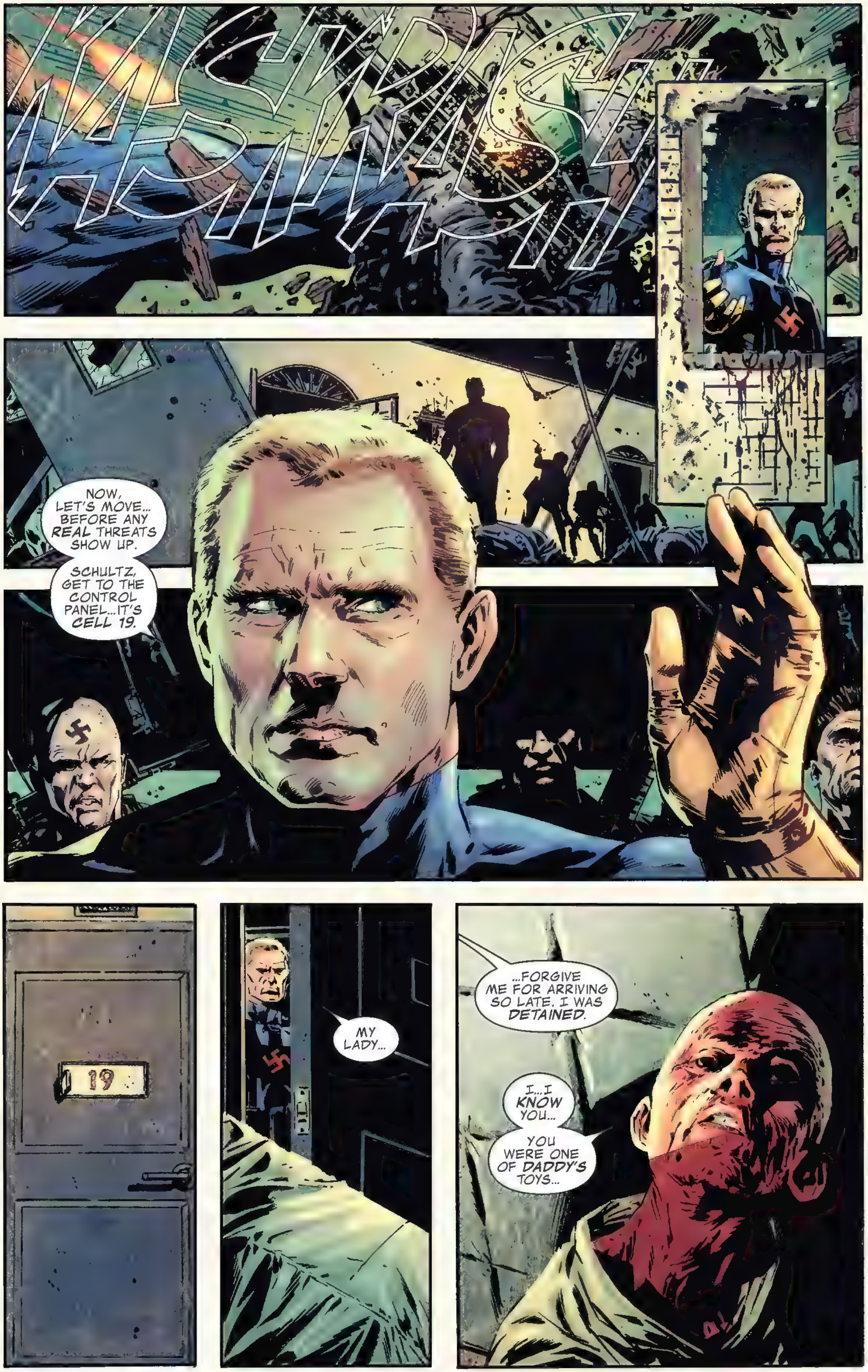

OF COURSE I'VE READ IT.
BUT HE'S STILL GOT TO DEFEND HIMSELF... TELL THEM WHAT WAS DONE TO HIM...
THAT'S YOUR CASE, THAT HE WASN'T IN--
I KNOW, STEVE. BUT I'M STILL NOT OPENING THAT DOOR.
I CAN JUST SEE THE FEDERAL PROSECUTOR MAKING HIM RECOUNT EVERY SOVIET MISSION...
IT'D BE A DISASTER.
SHE'S RIGHT, STEVE.
YOU SAID THIS WOULD BE POLITICAL...
...KEEPING ME OFF THE STAND GIVES THEM LESS FOR THEIR SPECTACLE.
AND IT'LL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO CONTROL THE MEDIA SPIN.
'CAUSE LIKE IT OR NOT, WE NEED TO BEND PUBLIC OPINION TO OUR WILL HERE.

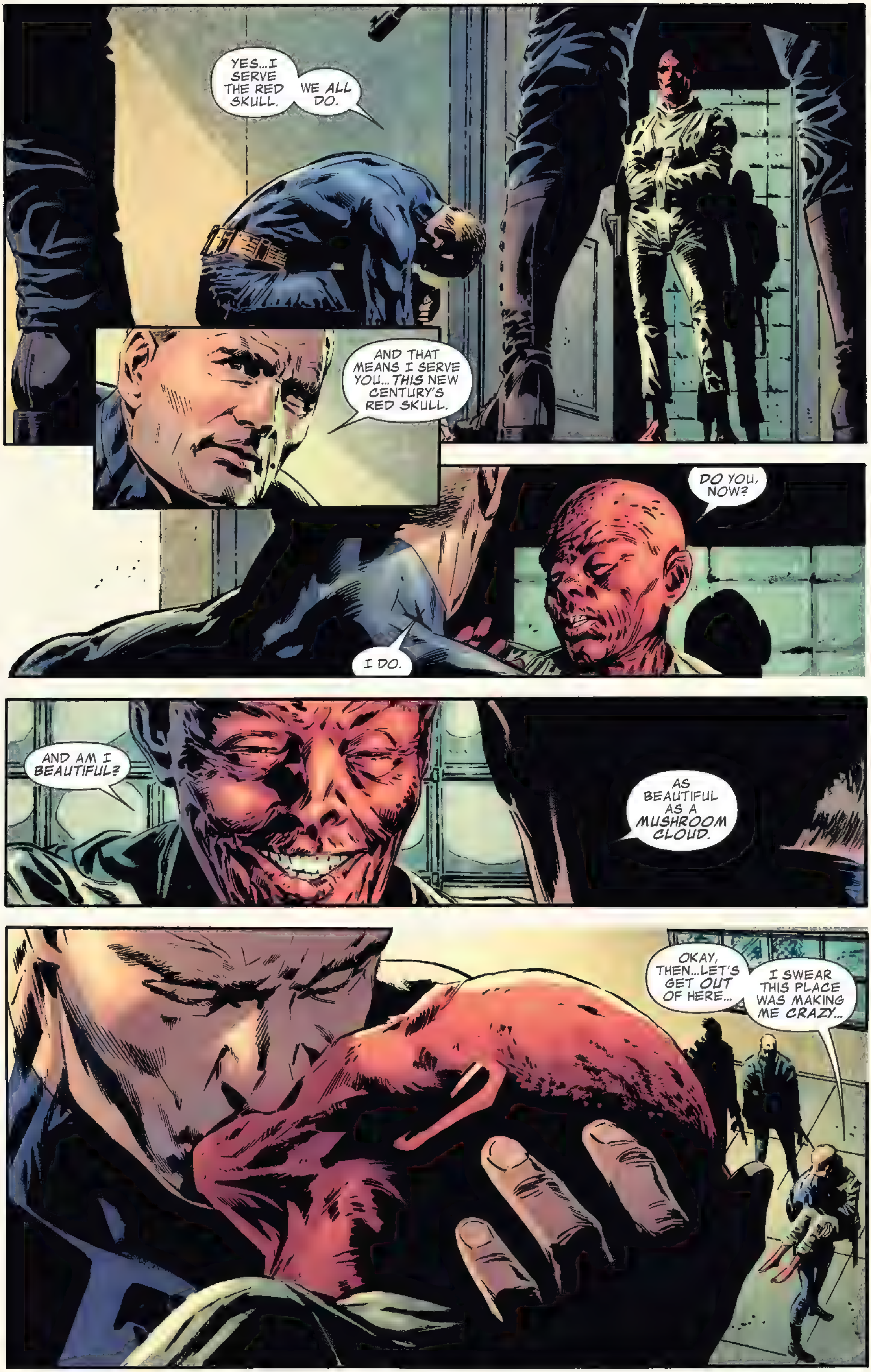

WE NEED PEOPLE TO *WANT* JAMES TO GO FREE, TO GET BACK THAT *UNIFORM*...
THAT'S GOING TO HELP US AS MUCH AS *ANYTHING* WE DO IN COURT.
ON A MORE *IMPORTANT* NOTE, HAVE YOU HEARD ANYTHING FROM ENGLAND YET?
YEAH. *MI-13* SAYS MASTER MAN *DID* ESCAPE A MONTH BACK.
THEY'VE HAD *MOST* OF THEIR PEOPLE SEARCHING EUROPE.
DIDN'T OCCUR TO THEM HE MIGHT HAVE GONE *TRANS-ATLANTIC*.
YOU KNOW THAT GUY IS *NUTS*, RIGHT?
HE WAS A *PSYCHO SKINHEAD* BEFORE THE RED SKULL *JUICED* HIM UP.
I KNOW. I'VE GOT SHARON *MONITORING* CHATTER RIGHT NOW.
IF HE IS COMING TO *AMERICA*, WE'LL FIND HIM...

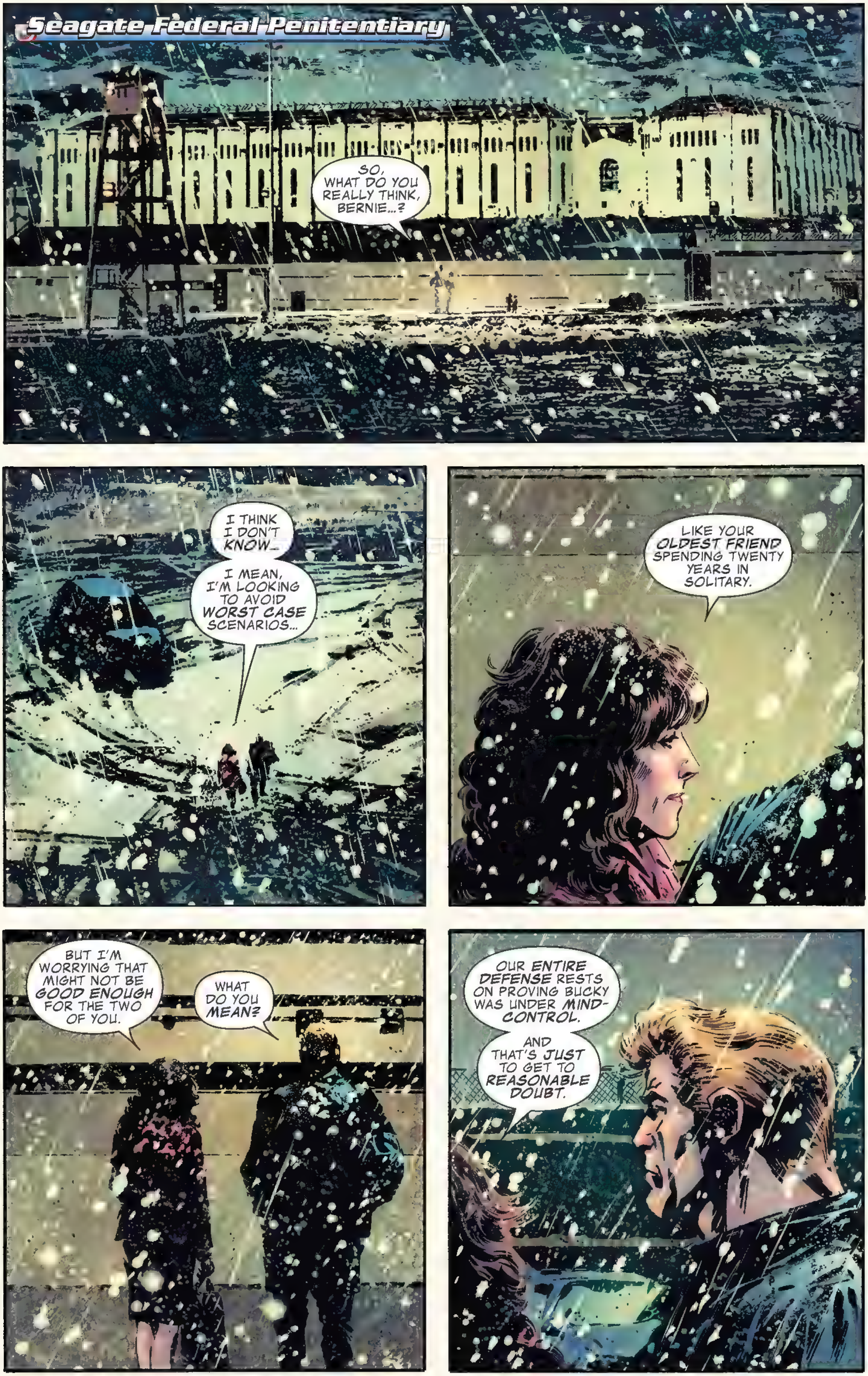

"...WHATEVER HE'S COME HERE FOR."
AAAIIIEEEEEE!
KURTZBERG INSTITUTE FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE
NOOO!
NOOO! HELP!
UNIT 2 TO BASE... DAY ROOM IS CLEAR.
HOSTILES HAVE BREACHED HIGH-SECURITY WING.

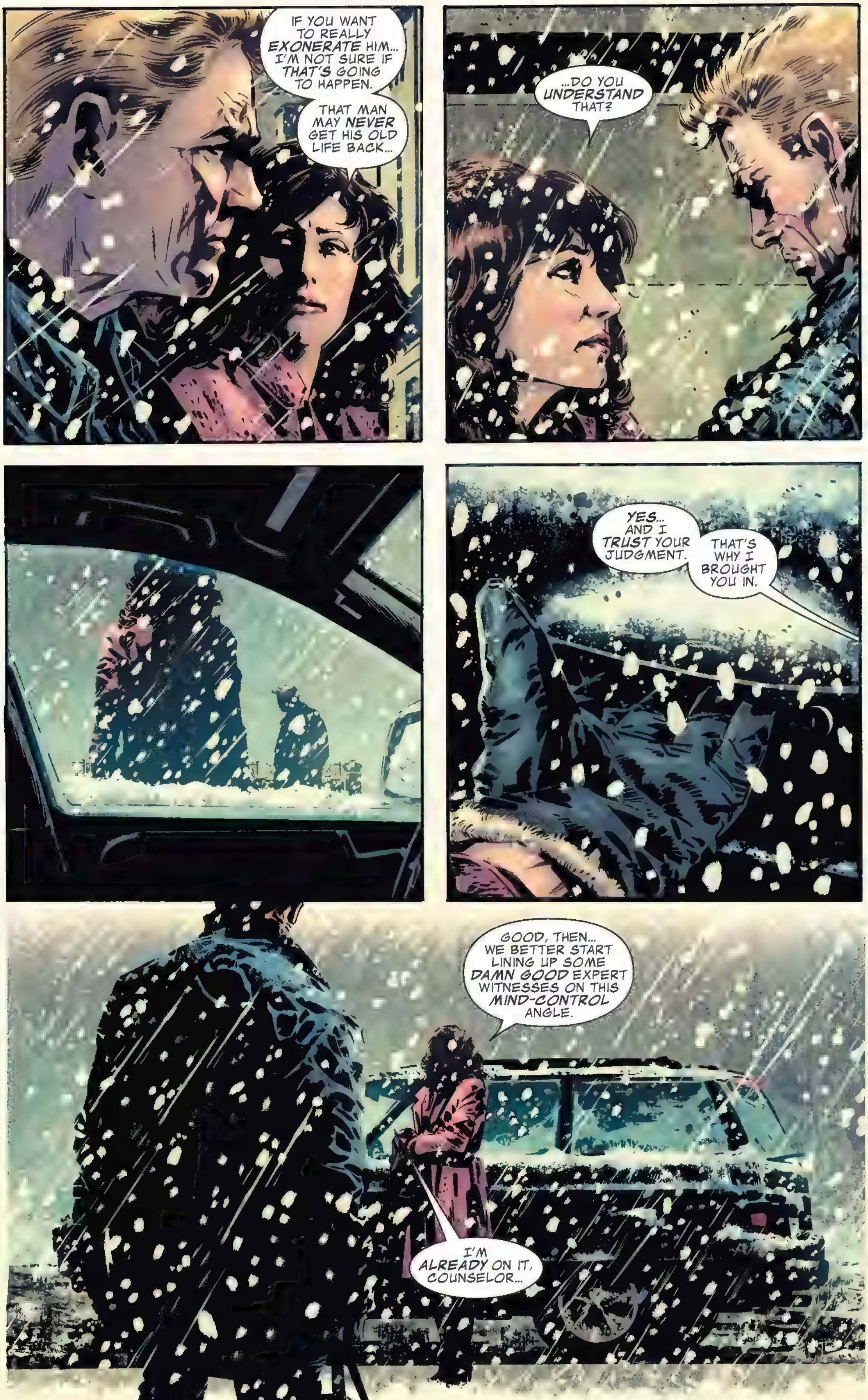

PREPARING TO ENGAGE.
POLICE
KA-BLAAM
BLAAM
SUCK ON THIS, COP!
BRATATATATATAT
AHHH!
BLAAM
BLAAM
IDIOTS... STOP PLAYING WITH THEM...
GAAH!
RATATATATATAT

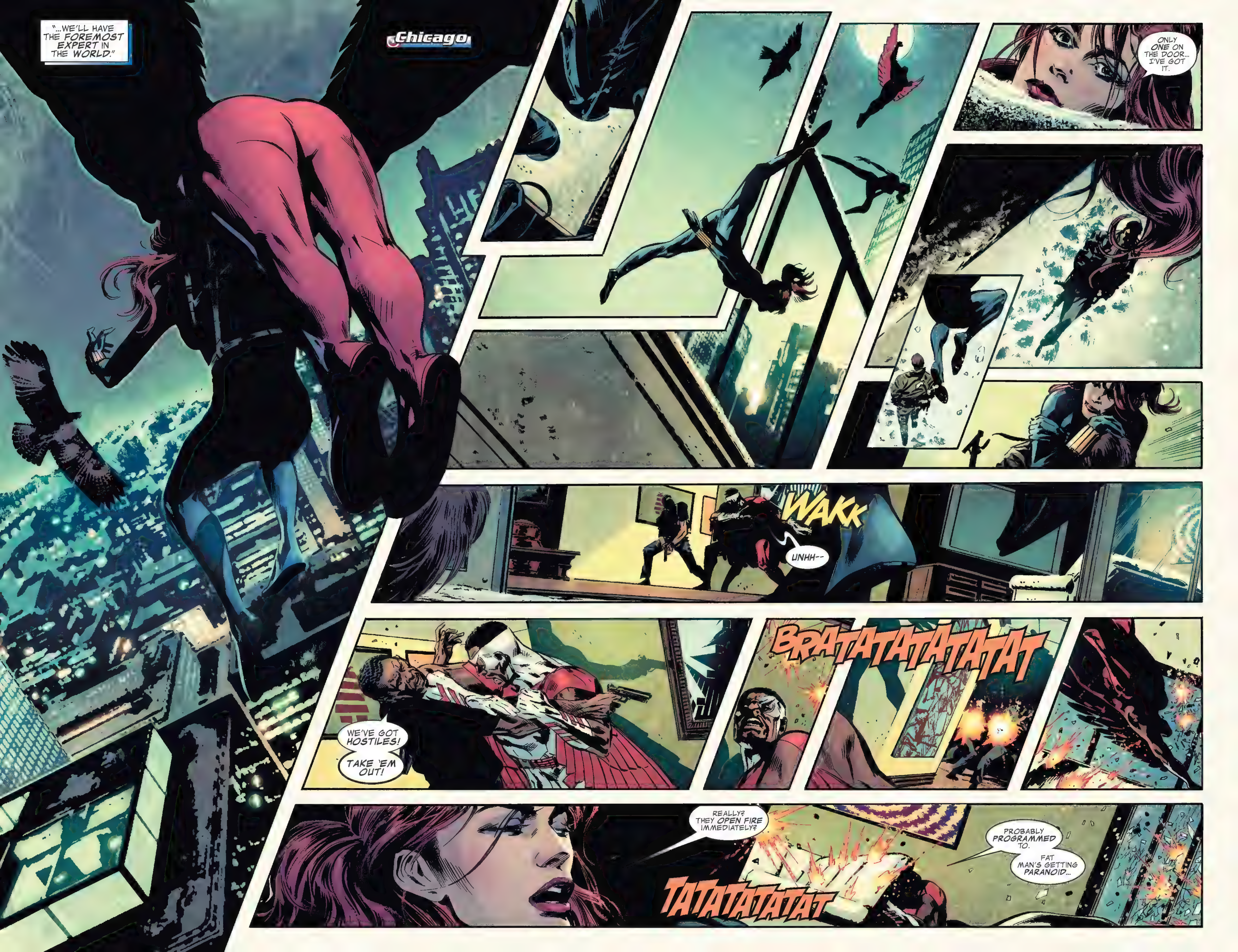

...WE DON'T HAVE *TIME* FOR THIS!
TATATATATATAT
RATATATATAT
KRRNCK
GYAAAA--!

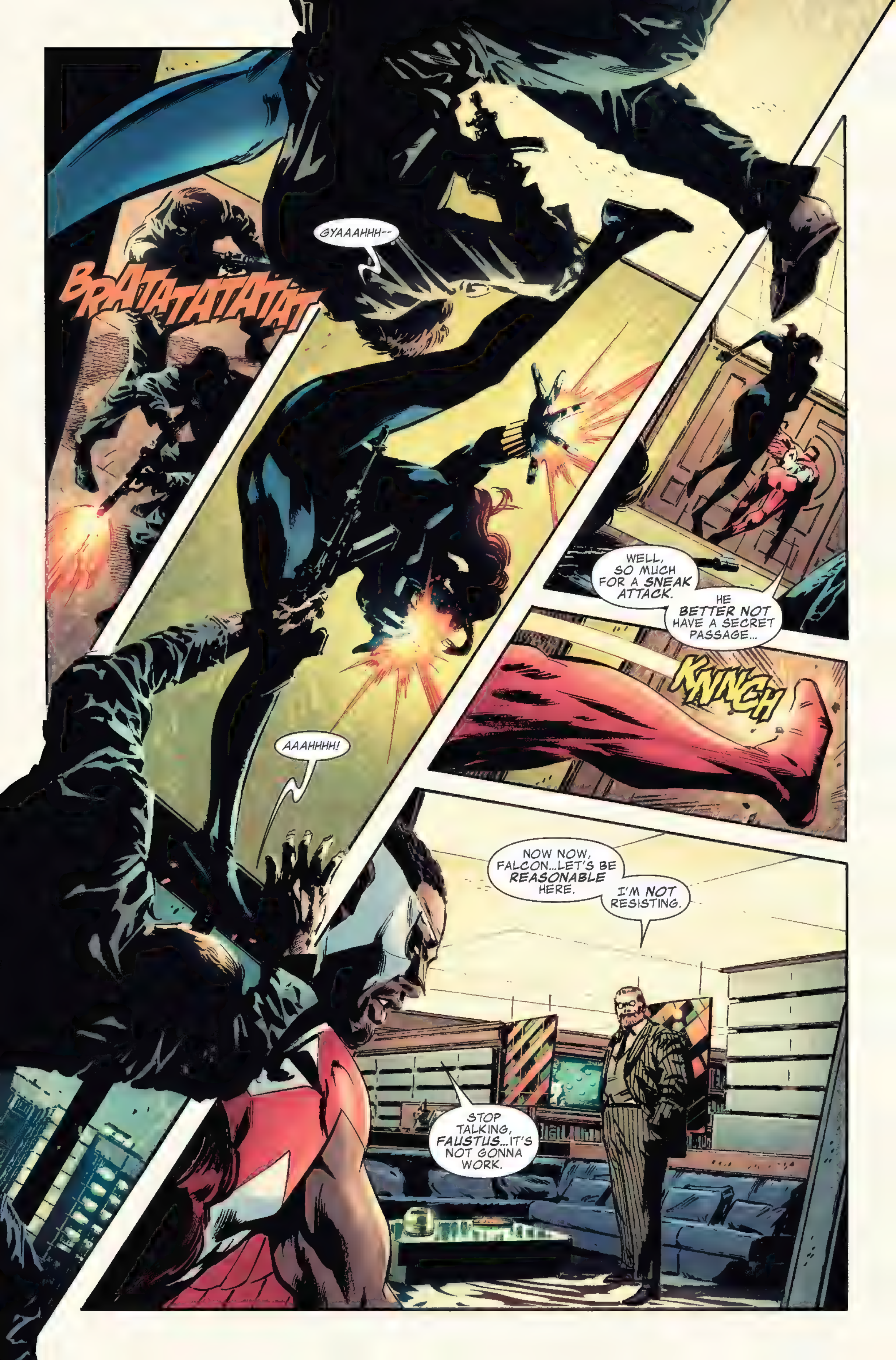

KACHRACK!
KESMASH!!
NOW, LET'S MOVE... BEFORE ANY *REAL* THREATS SHOW UP.
SCHULTZ, GET TO THE CONTROL PANEL...IT'S *CELL 19.*
19
MY LADY...
...FORGIVE ME FOR ARRIVING SO LATE. I WAS *DETAINED.*
I...I *KNOW* YOU...
YOU WERE ONE OF *DADDY'S* TOYS...

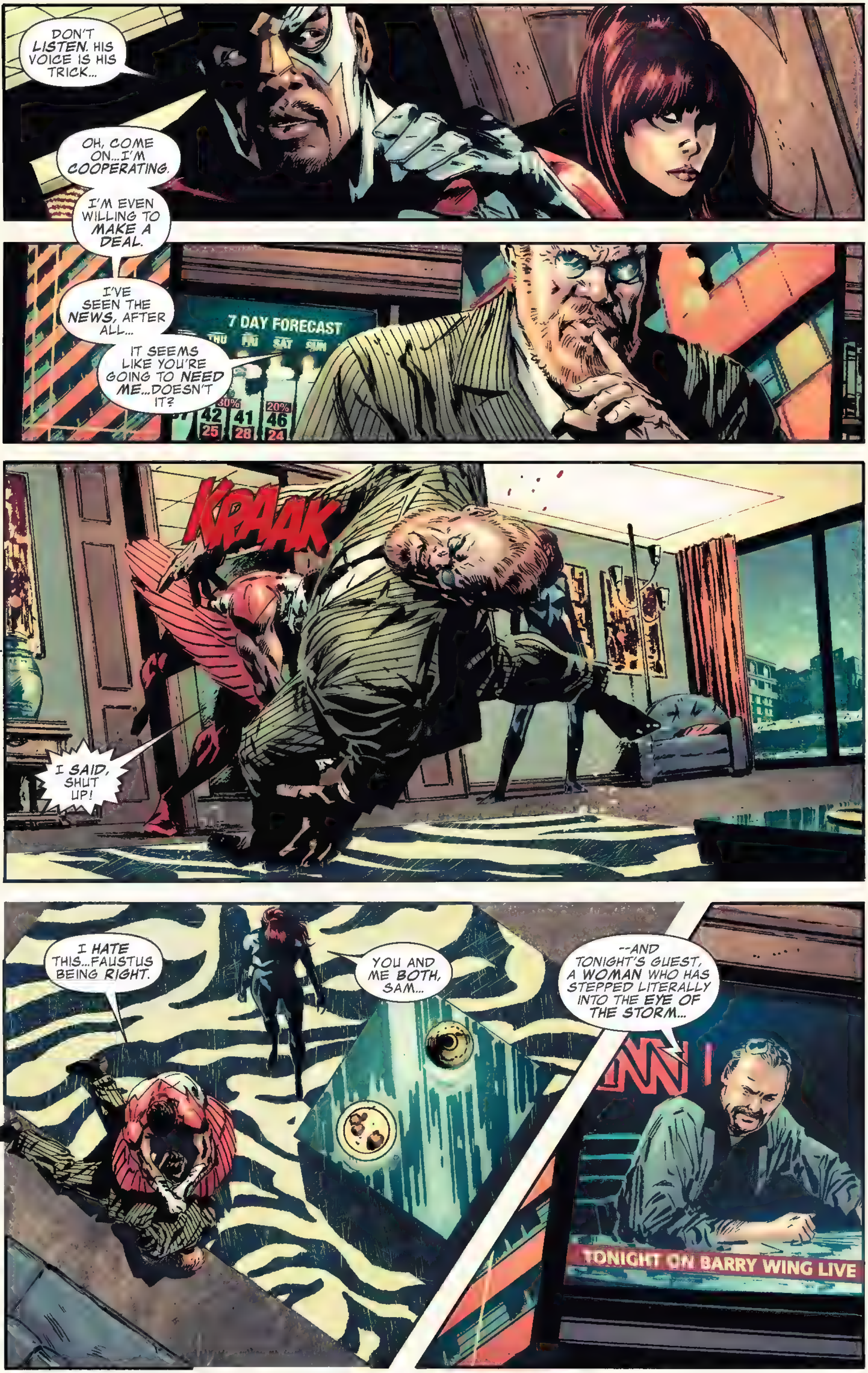

YES...I SERVE THE RED SKULL.
WE ALL DO.
AND THAT MEANS I SERVE YOU...THIS NEW CENTURY'S RED SKULL.
DO YOU, NOW?
I DO.
AND AM I BEAUTIFUL?
AS BEAUTIFUL AS A MUSHROOM CLOUD.
OKAY, THEN...LET'S GET OUT OF HERE...
I SWEAR THIS PLACE WAS MAKING ME CRAZY...

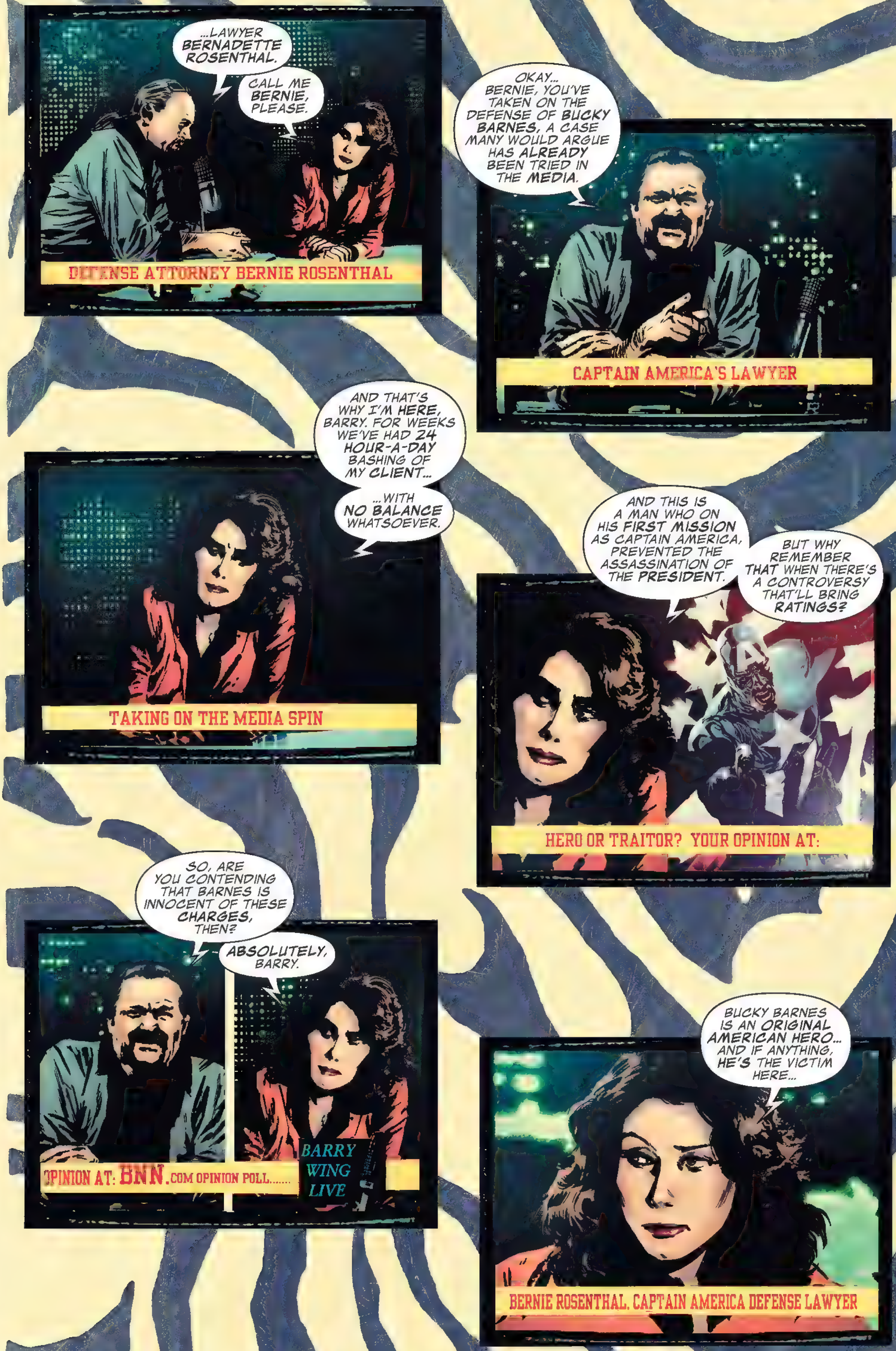

Seagate Federal Penitentiary
SO, WHAT DO YOU REALLY THINK, BERNIE...?
I THINK I DON'T KNOW...
I MEAN, I'M LOOKING TO AVOID WORST CASE SCENARIOS...
LIKE YOUR OLDEST FRIEND SPENDING TWENTY YEARS IN SOLITARY.
BUT I'M WORRYING THAT MIGHT NOT BE GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE TWO OF YOU.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
OUR ENTIRE DEFENSE RESTS ON PROVING BUCKY WAS UNDER MIND-CONTROL.
AND THAT'S JUST TO GET TO REASONABLE DOUBT.

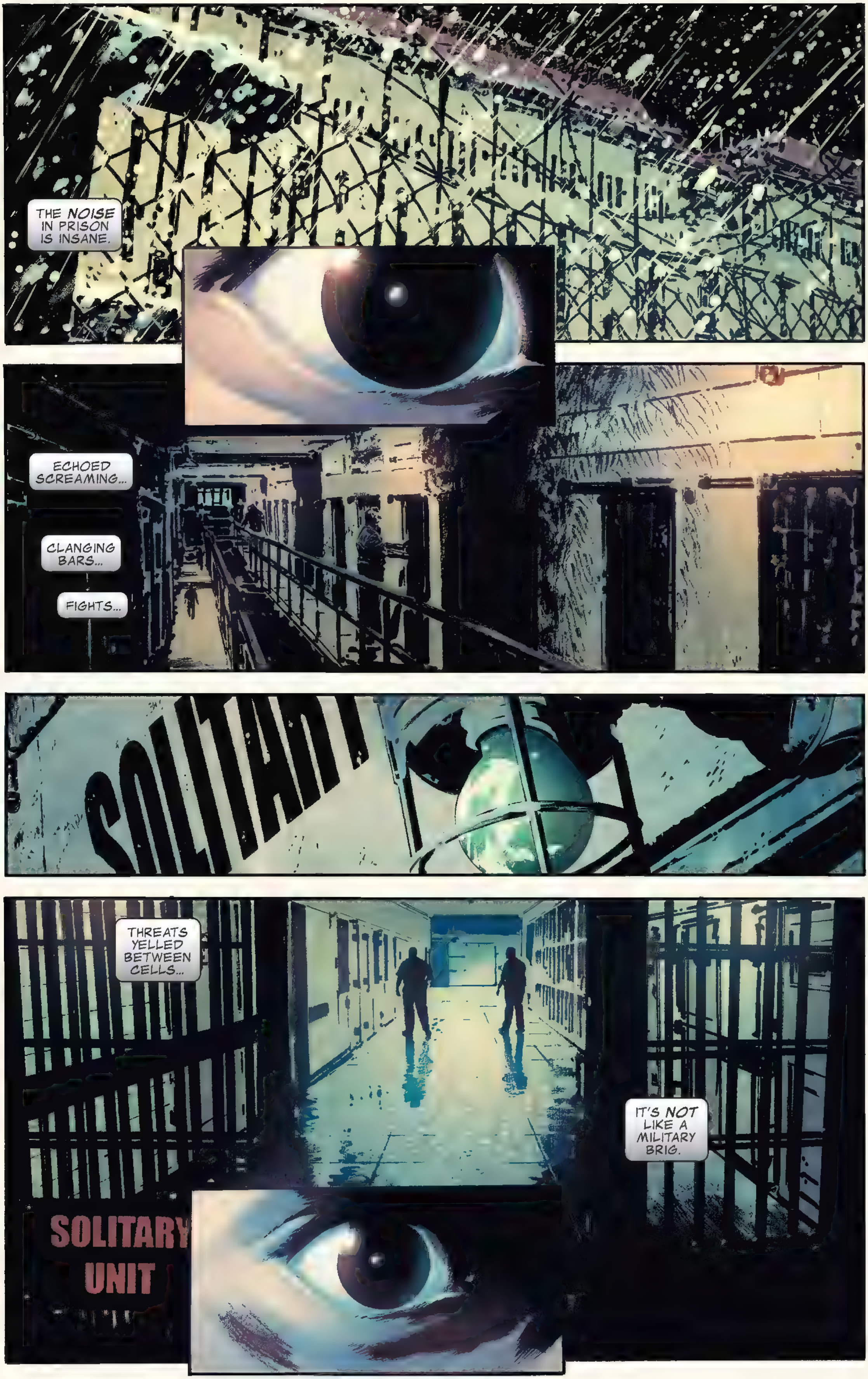

IF YOU WANT TO REALLY *EXONERATE* HIM... I'M NOT SURE IF *THAT'S* GOING TO HAPPEN.
THAT MAN MAY *NEVER* GET HIS OLD LIFE BACK...
...DO YOU *UNDERSTAND* THAT?
YES... AND I *TRUST* YOUR JUDGMENT.
THAT'S WHY I BROUGHT YOU IN.
GOOD, THEN... WE BETTER START LINING UP SOME *DAMN GOOD* EXPERT WITNESSES ON THIS *MIND-CONTROL* ANGLE.
I'M *ALREADY* ON IT, COUNSELOR...

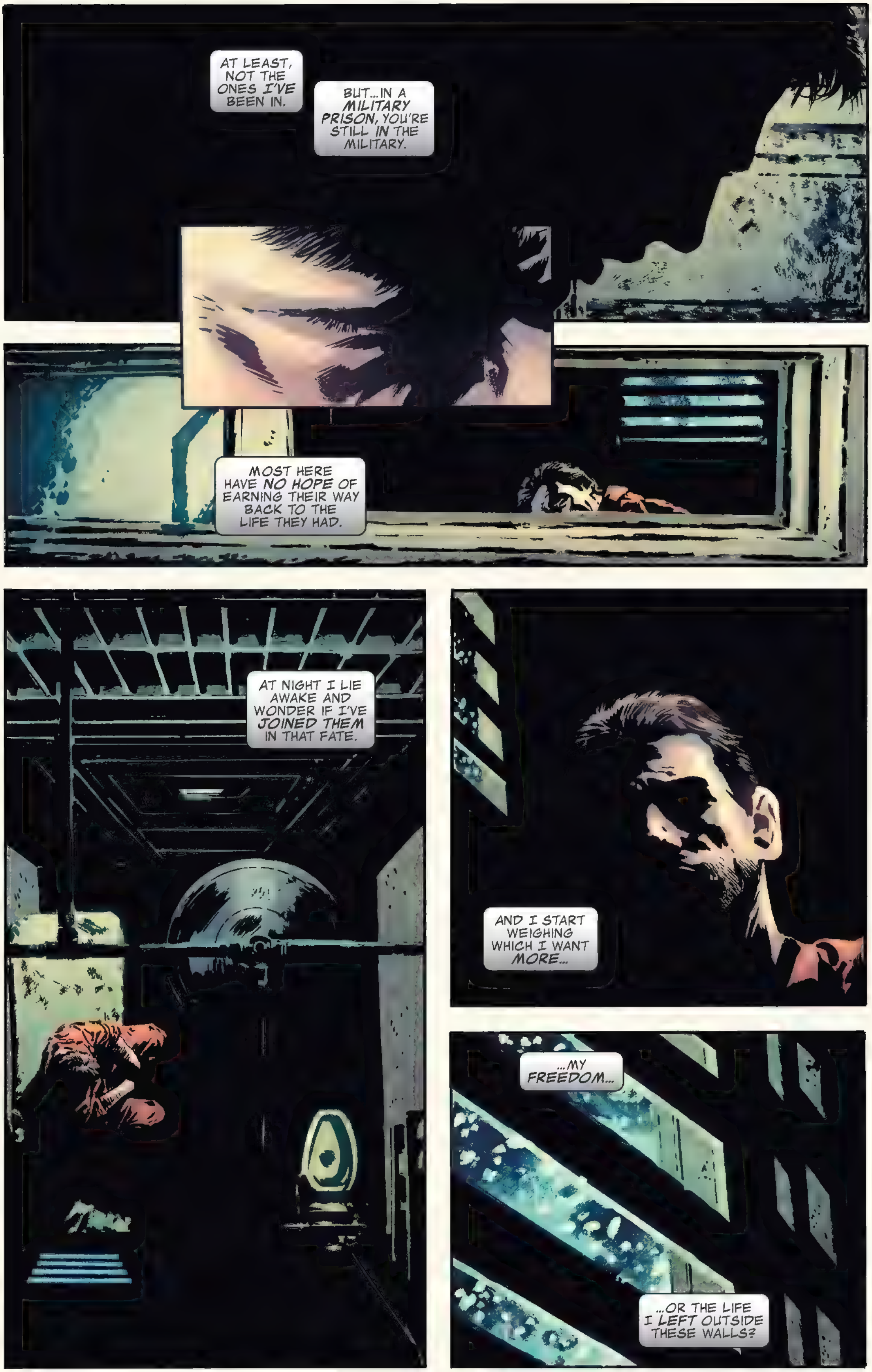

"...WE'LL HAVE THE FOREMOST EXPERT IN THE WORLD."
Chicago
ONLY ONE ON THE DOOR... I'VE GOT IT.
WAKK
UNHH--
WE'VE GOT HOSTILES!
TAKE 'EM OUT!
BRATATATATATATAT
REALLY? THEY OPEN FIRE IMMEDIATELY?
TATATATATAT
PROBABLY PROGRAMMED TO.
FAT MAN'S GETTING PARANOID...

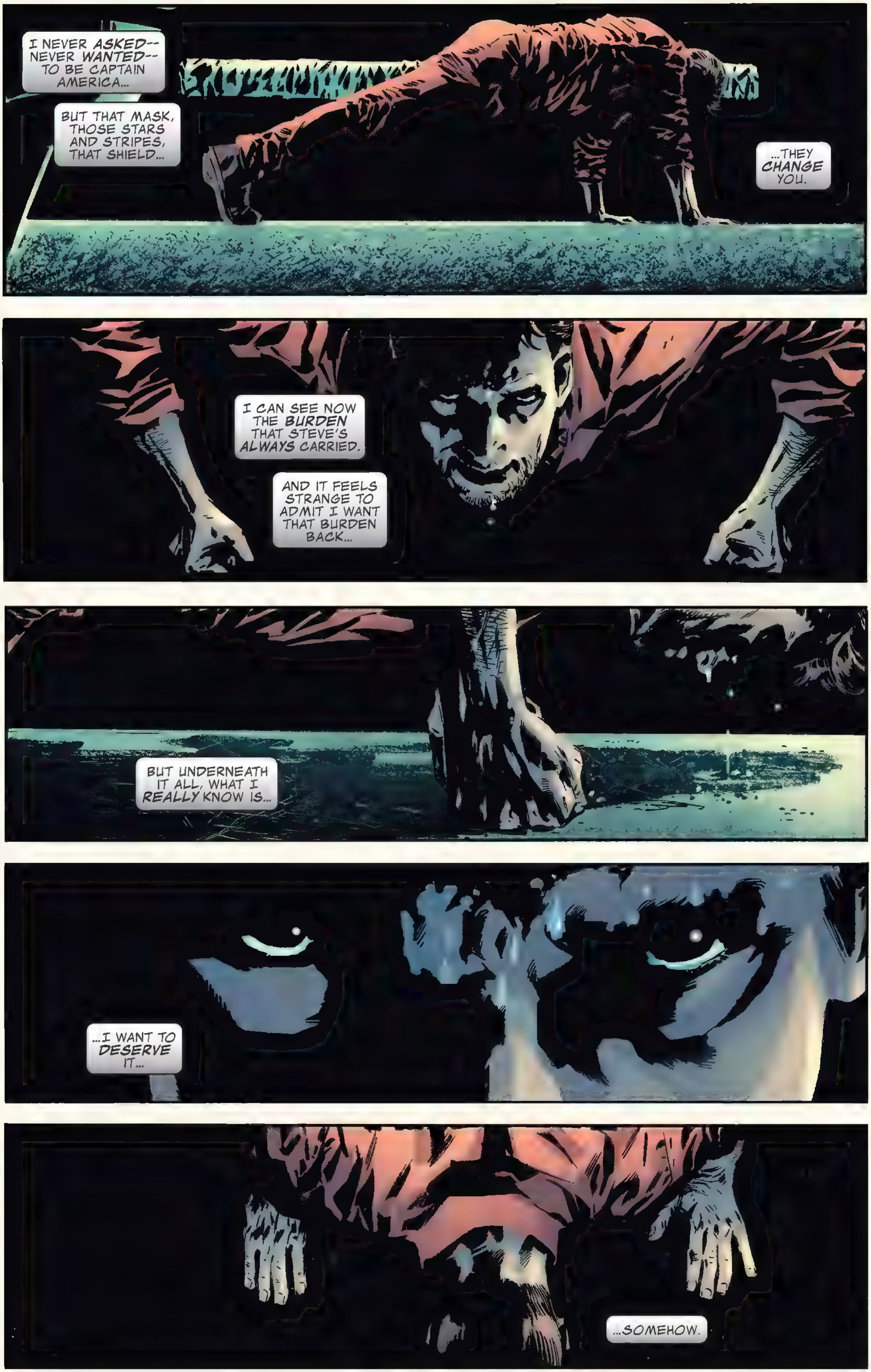

GYAAAHHH--
BRATATATATAT
AAAHHHH!
WELL, SO MUCH FOR A SNEAK ATTACK.
HE BETTER NOT HAVE A SECRET PASSAGE...
KNNCH
NOW NOW, FALCON...LET'S BE REASONABLE HERE.
I'M NOT RESISTING.
STOP TALKING, FAUSTUS...IT'S NOT GONNA WORK.

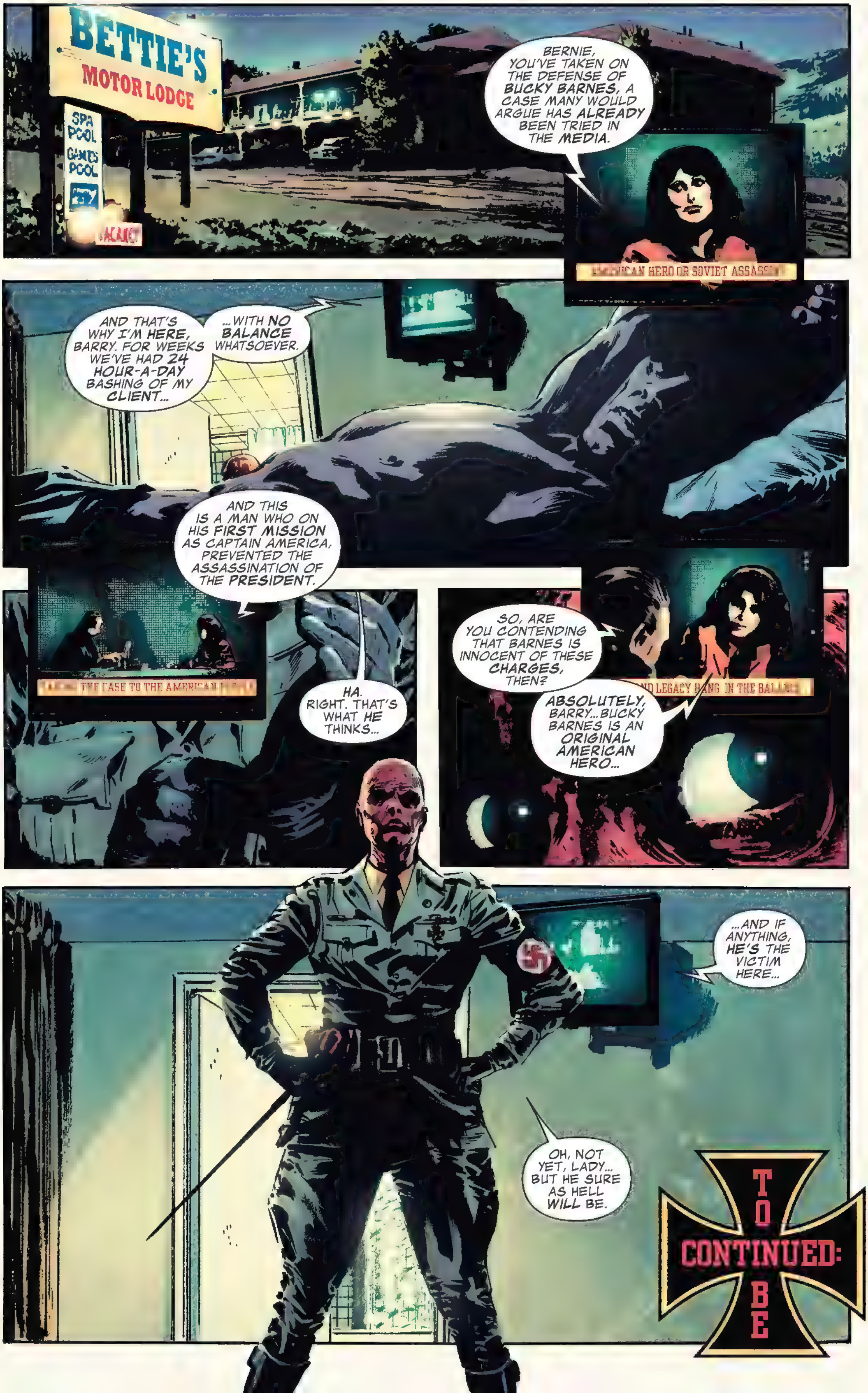

DON'T LISTEN. HIS VOICE IS HIS TRICK...
OH, COME ON...I'M COOPERATING.
I'M EVEN WILLING TO MAKE A DEAL.
I'VE SEEN THE NEWS, AFTER ALL...
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO NEED ME...DOESN'T IT?
7 DAY FORECAST
THU FRI SAT SUN
30% 20%
42 41 46
25 28 24
KRAAK
I SAID, SHUT UP!
I HATE THIS...FAUSTUS BEING RIGHT.
YOU AND ME BOTH, SAM...
--AND TONIGHT'S GUEST, A WOMAN WHO HAS STEPPED LITERALLY INTO THE EYE OF THE STORM...
TONIGHT ON BARRY WING LIVE


...LAWYER BERNADETTE ROSENTHAL.
CALL ME BERNIE, PLEASE.
DEFENSE ATTORNEY BERNIE ROSENTHAL
OKAY... BERNIE, YOU'VE TAKEN ON THE DEFENSE OF BUCKY BARNES, A CASE MANY WOULD ARGUE HAS ALREADY BEEN TRIED IN THE MEDIA.
CAPTAIN AMERICA'S LAWYER
AND THAT'S WHY I'M HERE, BARRY. FOR WEEKS WE'VE HAD 24 HOUR-A-DAY BASHING OF MY CLIENT...
...WITH NO BALANCE WHATSOEVER.
TAKING ON THE MEDIA SPIN
AND THIS IS A MAN WHO ON HIS FIRST MISSION AS CAPTAIN AMERICA, PREVENTED THE ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT.
BUT WHY REMEMBER THAT WHEN THERE'S A CONTROVERSY THAT'LL BRING RATINGS?
HERO OR TRAITOR? YOUR OPINION AT:
SO, ARE YOU CONTENDING THAT BARNES IS INNOCENT OF THESE CHARGES, THEN?
ABSOLUTELY, BARRY.
PINION AT: BNN.COM OPINION POLL.......
BARRY WING LIVE
BUCKY BARNES IS AN ORIGINAL AMERICAN HERO... AND IF ANYTHING, HE'S THE VICTIM HERE...
BERNIE ROSENTHAL, CAPTAIN AMERICA DEFENSE LAWYER


THE *NOISE* IN PRISON IS INSANE.
ECHOED SCREAMING...
CLANGING BARS...
FIGHTS...
THREATS YELLED BETWEEN CELLS...
IT'S *NOT* LIKE A MILITARY BRIG.
SOLITARY UNIT


AT LEAST, NOT THE ONES *I'VE* BEEN IN.
BUT...IN A *MILITARY PRISON*, YOU'RE STILL *IN* THE MILITARY.
MOST HERE HAVE *NO HOPE* OF EARNING THEIR WAY BACK TO THE LIFE THEY HAD.
AT NIGHT I LIE AWAKE AND WONDER IF I'VE *JOINED THEM* IN THAT FATE.
AND I START WEIGHING WHICH I WANT *MORE*...
...MY *FREEDOM*...
...OR THE LIFE I *LEFT* OUTSIDE THESE WALLS?


I NEVER *ASKED*--NEVER *WANTED*--TO BE CAPTAIN AMERICA...
BUT THAT MASK, THOSE STARS AND STRIPES, THAT SHIELD...
...THEY *CHANGE* YOU.
I CAN SEE NOW THE *BURDEN* THAT STEVE'S *ALWAYS* CARRIED.
AND IT FEELS STRANGE TO ADMIT I WANT THAT BURDEN BACK...
BUT UNDERNEATH IT ALL, WHAT I *REALLY* KNOW IS...
...I WANT TO *DESERVE* IT...
...SOMEHOW.


BETTIE'S
MOTOR LODGE
SPA POOL
GAMES POOL
VACANCY
BERNIE, YOU'VE TAKEN ON THE DEFENSE OF BUCKY BARNES, A CASE MANY WOULD ARGUE HAS ALREADY BEEN TRIED IN THE MEDIA.
AMERICAN HERO OR SOVIET ASSASSIN
AND THAT'S WHY I'M HERE, BARRY. FOR WEEKS WE'VE HAD 24 HOUR-A-DAY BASHING OF MY CLIENT...
...WITH NO BALANCE WHATSOEVER.
AND THIS IS A MAN WHO ON HIS FIRST MISSION AS CAPTAIN AMERICA, PREVENTED THE ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT.
THE CASE TO THE AMERICAN
HA. RIGHT. THAT'S WHAT HE THINKS...
SO, ARE YOU CONTENDING THAT BARNES IS INNOCENT OF THESE CHARGES, THEN?
ND LEGACY HANG IN THE BALANCE
ABSOLUTELY, BARRY...BUCKY BARNES IS AN ORIGINAL AMERICAN HERO...
...AND IF ANYTHING, HE'S THE VICTIM HERE...
OH, NOT YET, LADY... BUT HE SURE AS HELL WILL BE.
TO BE CONTINUED:

MARVEL
613
IT BEGINS! THE TRIAL OF
CAPTAIN AMERICA
ALSO FEATURING
NOMAD
BRUBAKER
GUICE
GAUDIANO
BREITWEISER

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CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But Bucky has a dark and secret past as the Winter Soldier - an assassin trained, employed, and mentally manipulated by the KGB to stymie U.S. efforts in the Cold War. A past that Baron Zemo has exposed to the world. And with the media frenzy building, Steve Rogers can't stand to see his wartime partner's name stained any more: Hiring Bernie Rosenthal as Bucky's defense attorney, the decision is made to keep Bucky off the stand so the details of his time as the Winter Soldier are kept to a minimum.

As Bucky stews in prison, another of Cap's most vicious enemies resurfaces - Master Man liberates Sin, the daughter of the Red Skull, from a mental ward. Taking up her father's mantle, the new Red Skull is ready for revenge.

THE TRIAL OF CAPTAIN AMERICA part 3

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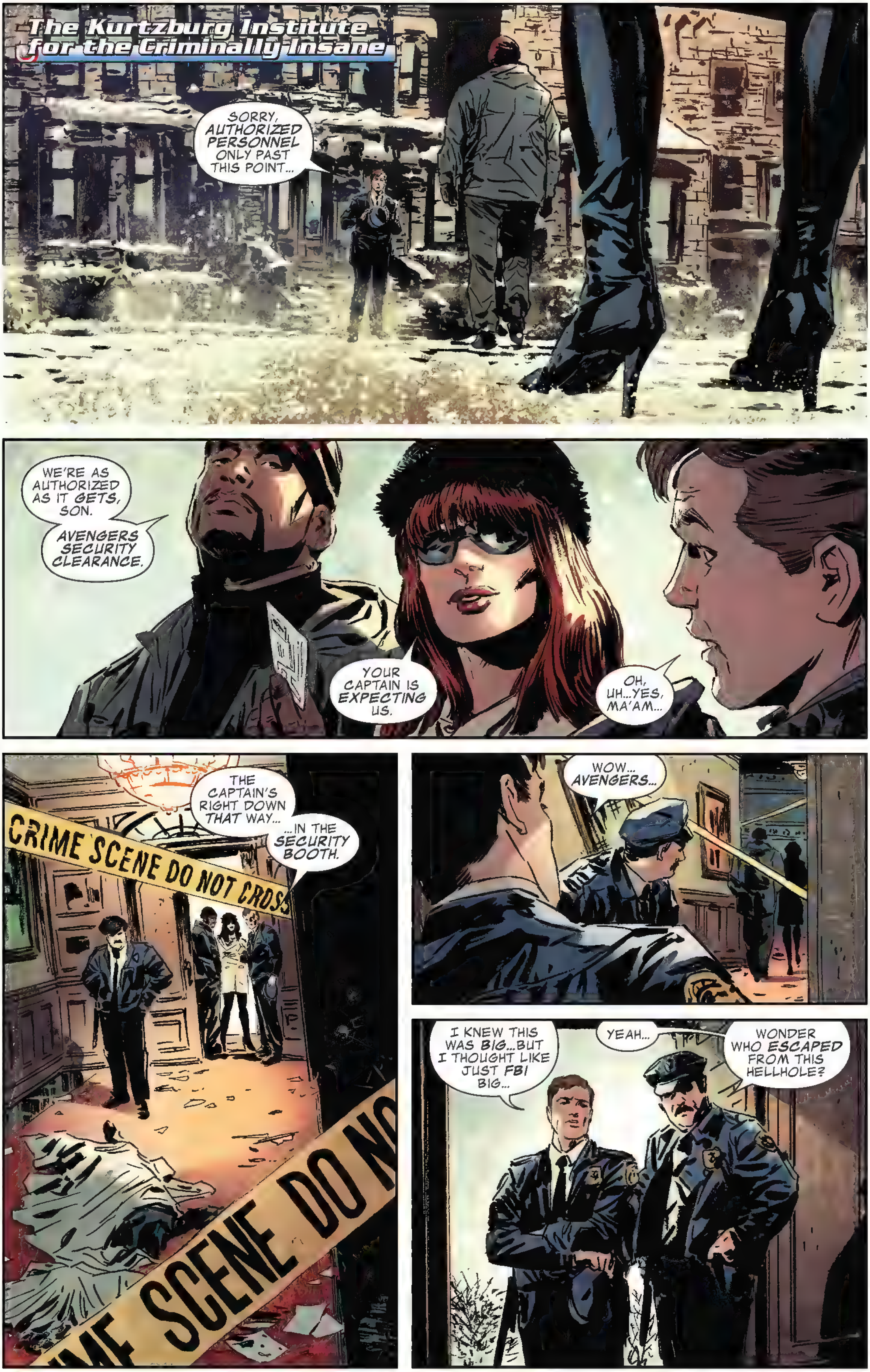
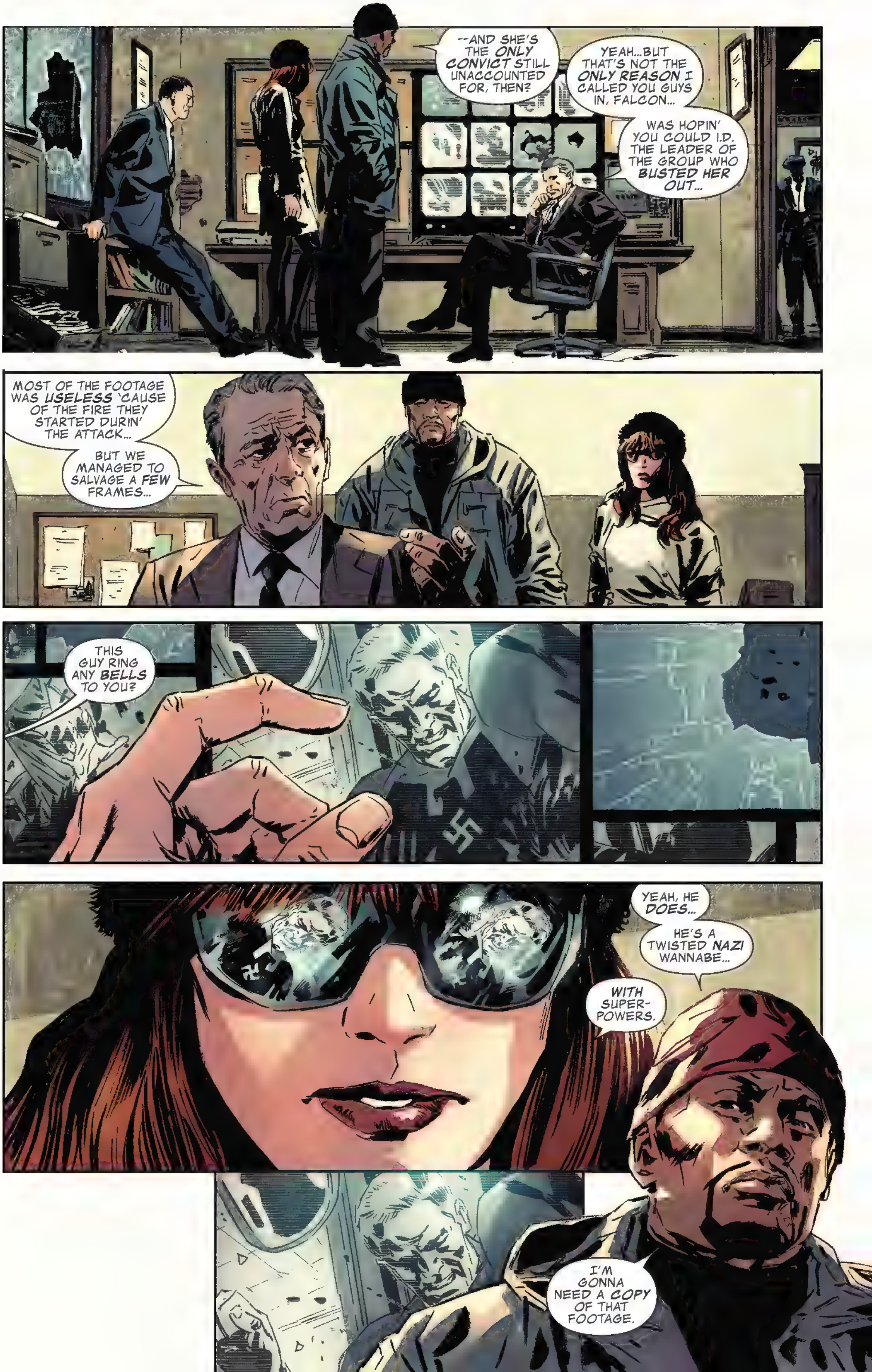
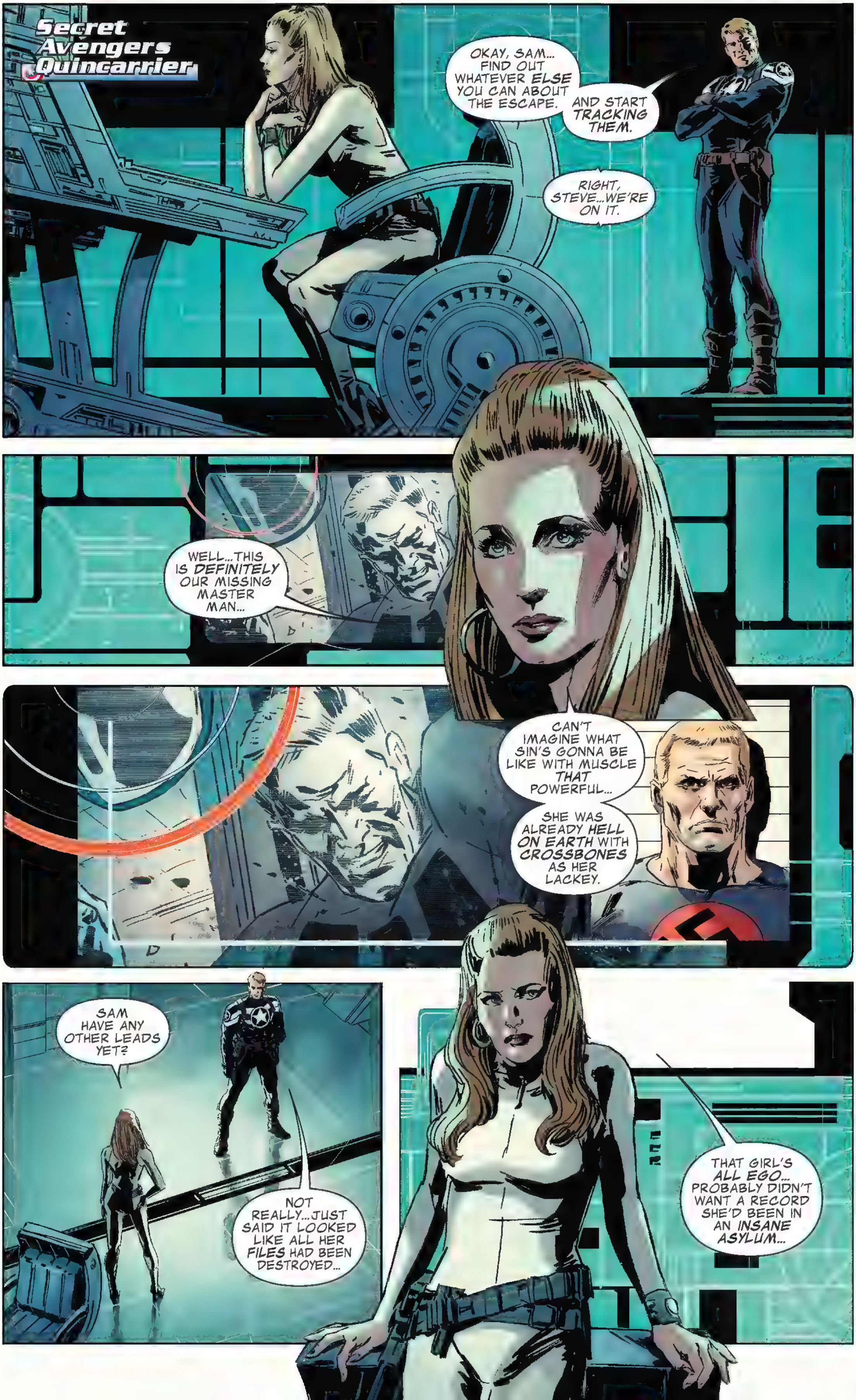
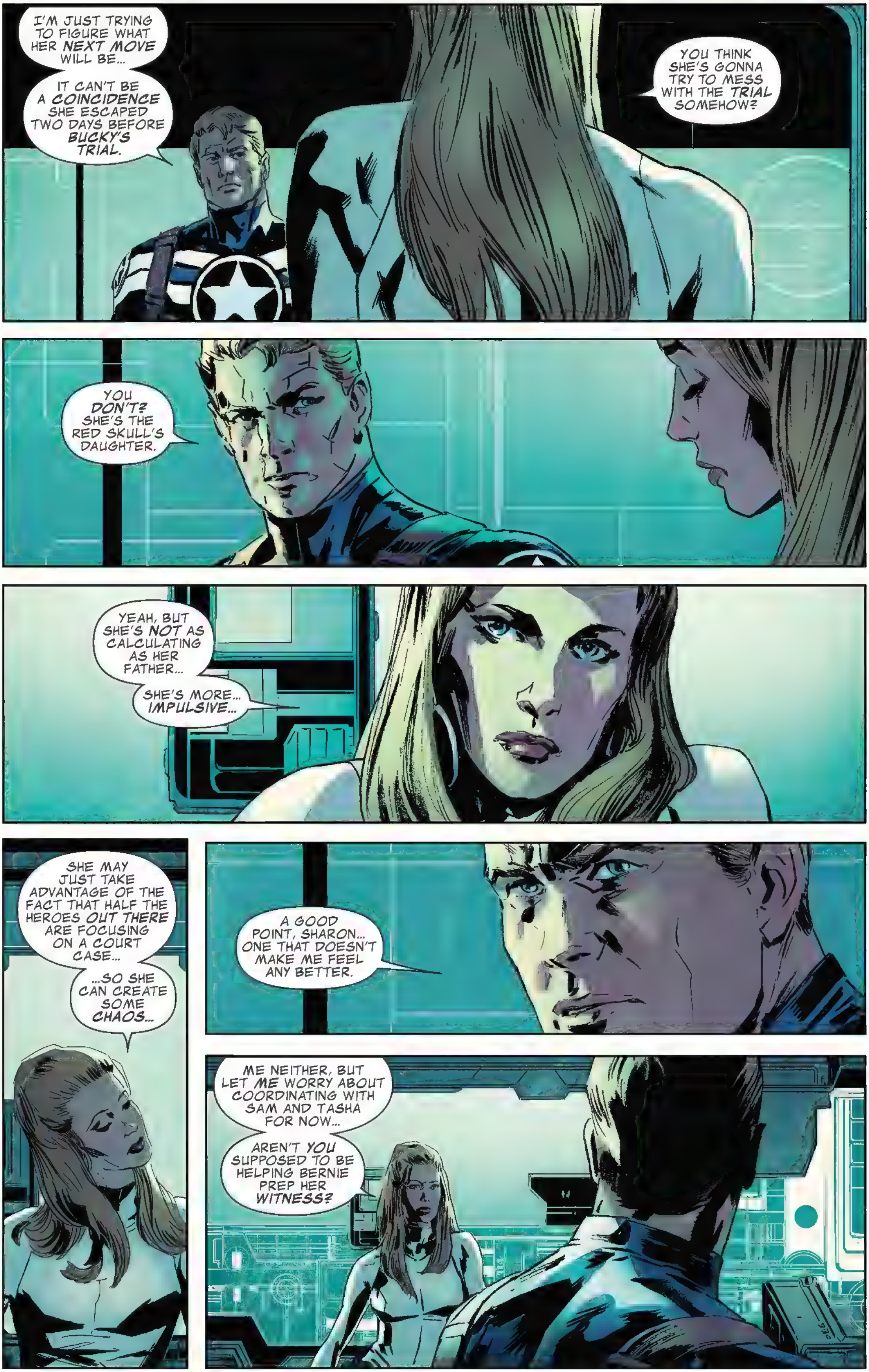
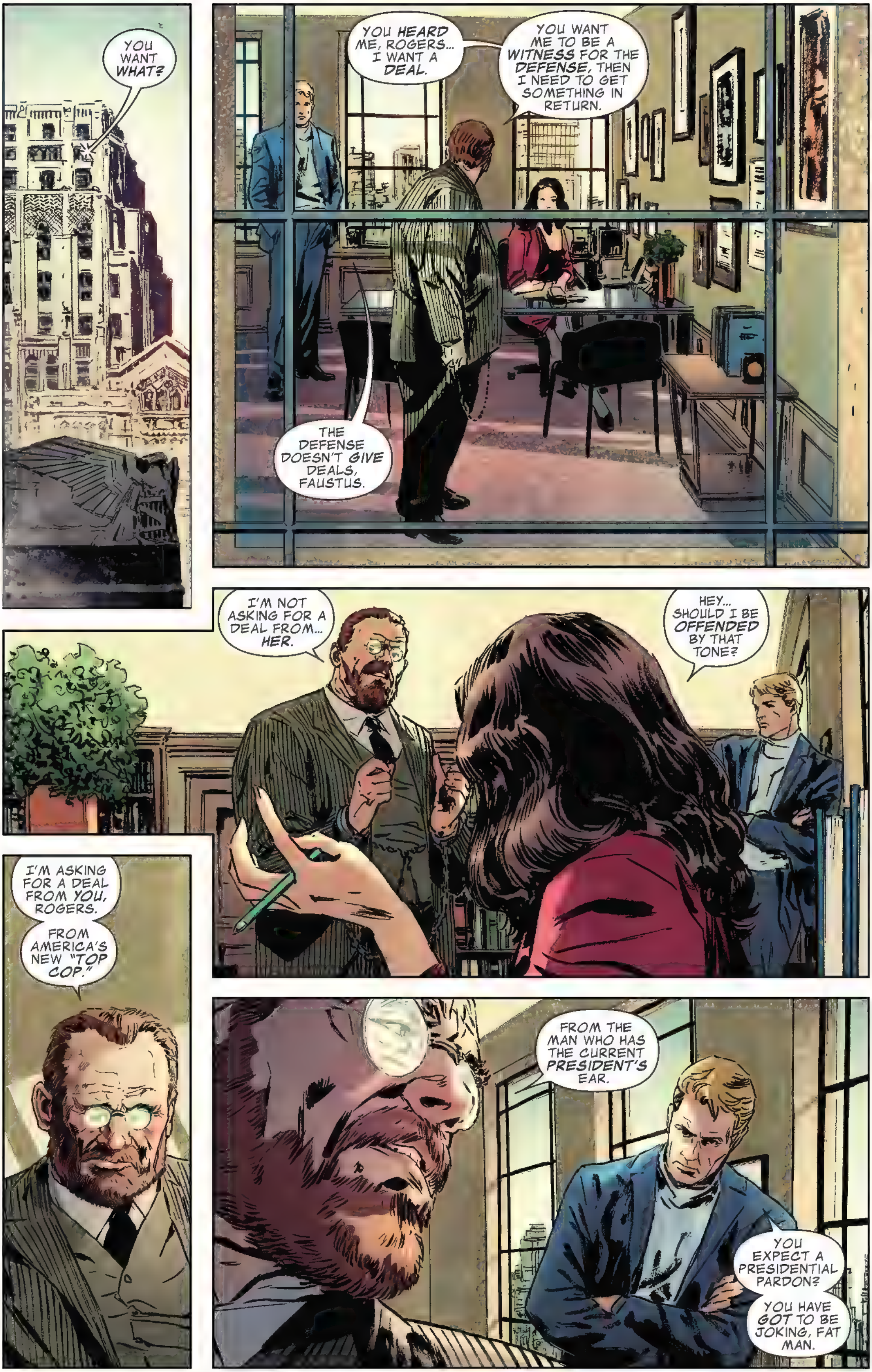
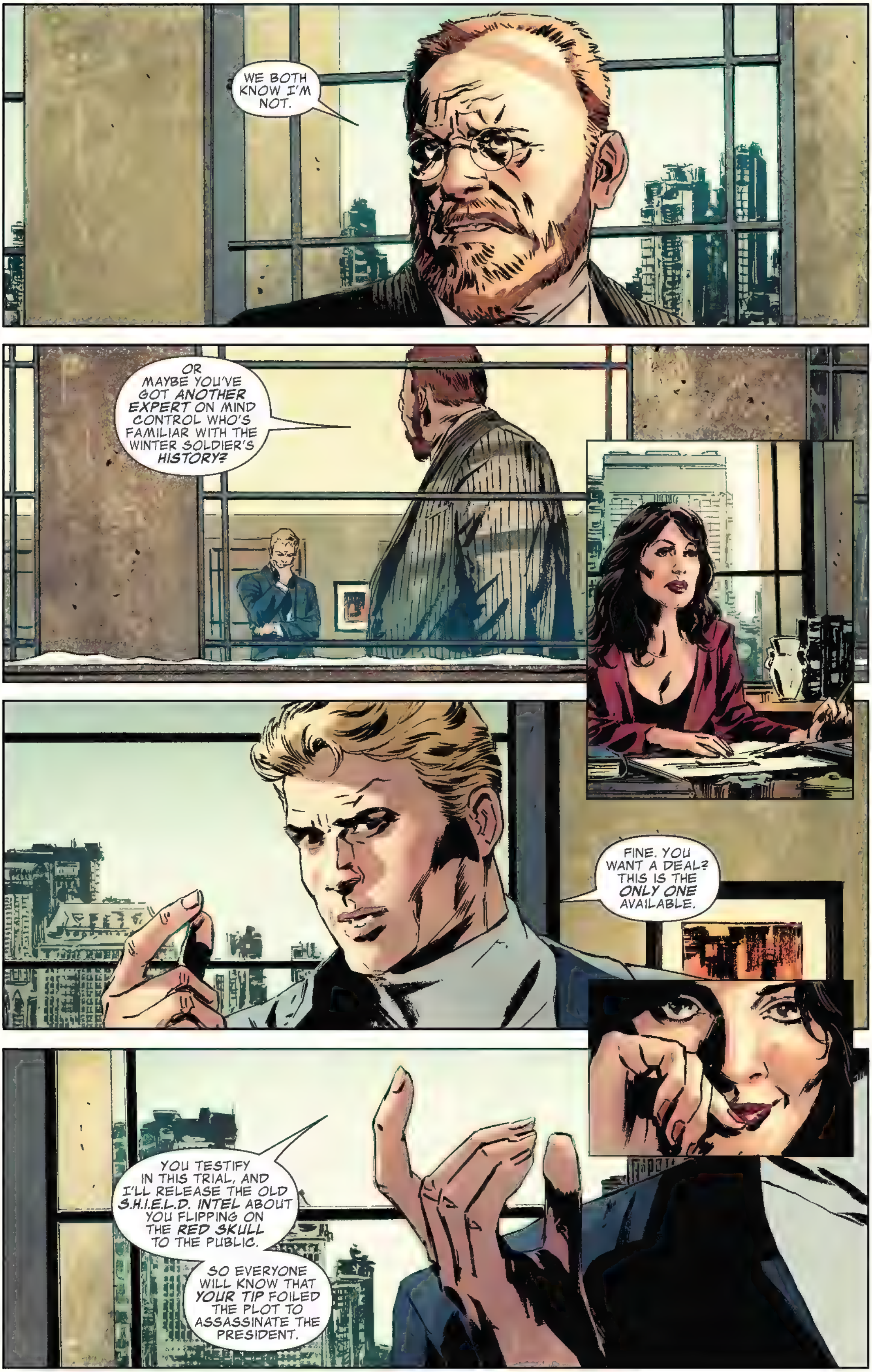

The Kurtzburg Institute for the Criminally Insane
SORRY, AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY PAST THIS POINT...
WE'RE AS AUTHORIZED AS IT GETS, SON.
AVENGERS SECURITY CLEARANCE.
YOUR CAPTAIN IS EXPECTING US.
OH, UH...YES, MA'AM...
CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS
THE CAPTAIN'S RIGHT DOWN THAT WAY...
...IN THE SECURITY BOOTH.
WOW... AVENGERS...
I KNEW THIS WAS BIG...BUT I THOUGHT LIKE JUST FBI BIG...
YEAH...
WONDER WHO ESCAPED FROM THIS HELLHOLE?

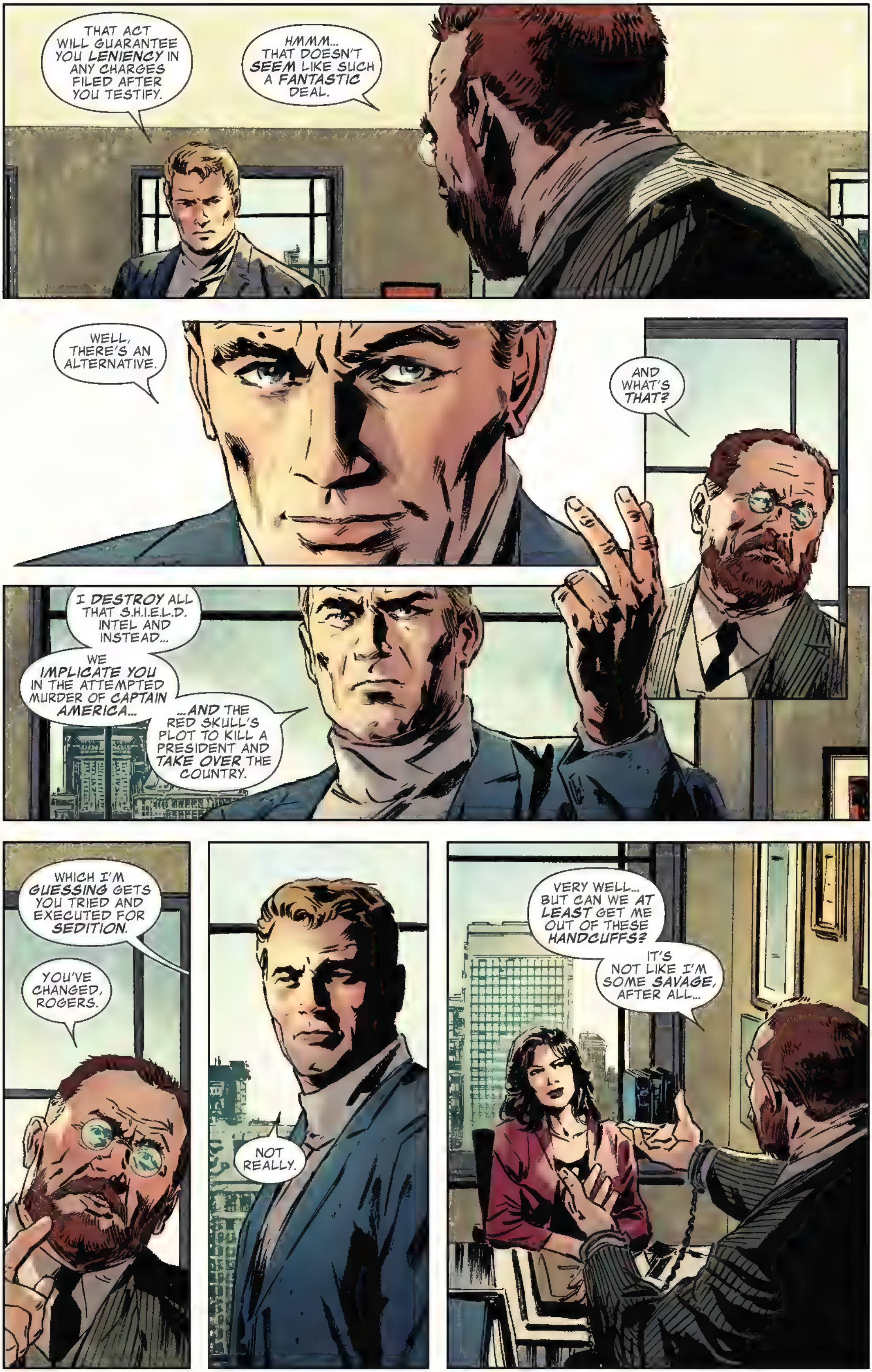

--AND SHE'S THE *ONLY CONVICT* STILL UNACCOUNTED FOR, THEN?
YEAH...BUT THAT'S NOT THE *ONLY REASON* I CALLED YOU GUYS IN, FALCON...
WAS HOPIN' YOU COULD I.D. THE LEADER OF THE GROUP WHO *BUSTED HER OUT*...
MOST OF THE FOOTAGE WAS *USELESS* 'CAUSE OF THE FIRE THEY STARTED DURIN' THE ATTACK...
BUT WE MANAGED TO SALVAGE A *FEW* FRAMES...
THIS GUY RING ANY *BELLS* TO YOU?
YEAH, HE *DOES*...
HE'S A TWISTED *NAZI* WANNABE...
WITH SUPER-POWERS.
I'M GONNA NEED A *COPY* OF THAT FOOTAGE.

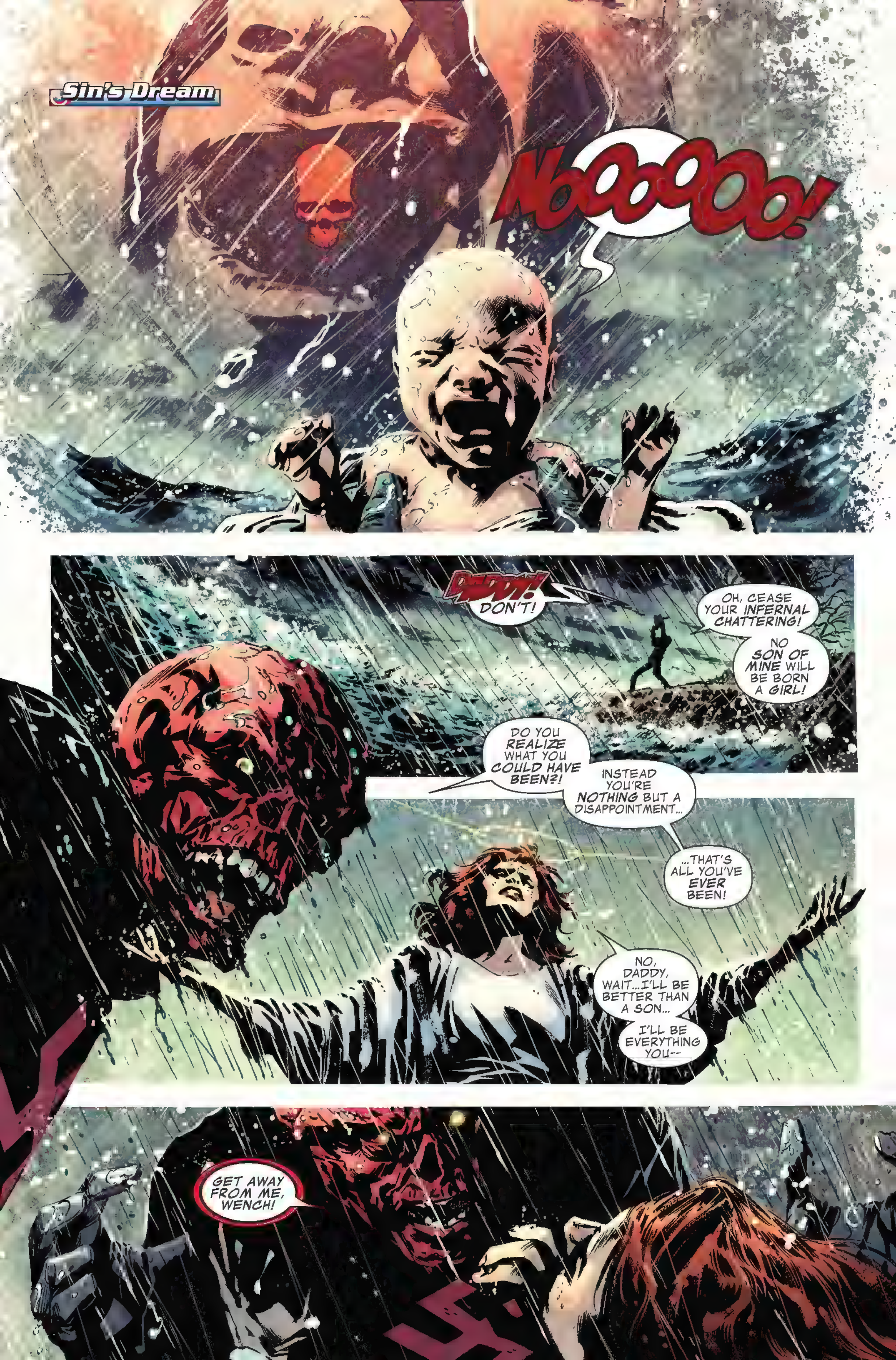

Secret Avengers Quincarrier
OKAY, SAM... FIND OUT WHATEVER ELSE YOU CAN ABOUT THE ESCAPE.
AND START TRACKING THEM.
RIGHT, STEVE...WE'RE ON IT.
WELL...THIS IS DEFINITELY OUR MISSING MASTER MAN...
CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT SIN'S GONNA BE LIKE WITH MUSCLE THAT POWERFUL...
SHE WAS ALREADY HELL ON EARTH WITH CROSSBONES AS HER LACKEY.
SAM HAVE ANY OTHER LEADS YET?
NOT REALLY...JUST SAID IT LOOKED LIKE ALL HER FILES HAD BEEN DESTROYED...
THAT GIRL'S ALL EGO... PROBABLY DIDN'T WANT A RECORD SHE'D BEEN IN AN INSANE ASYLUM...

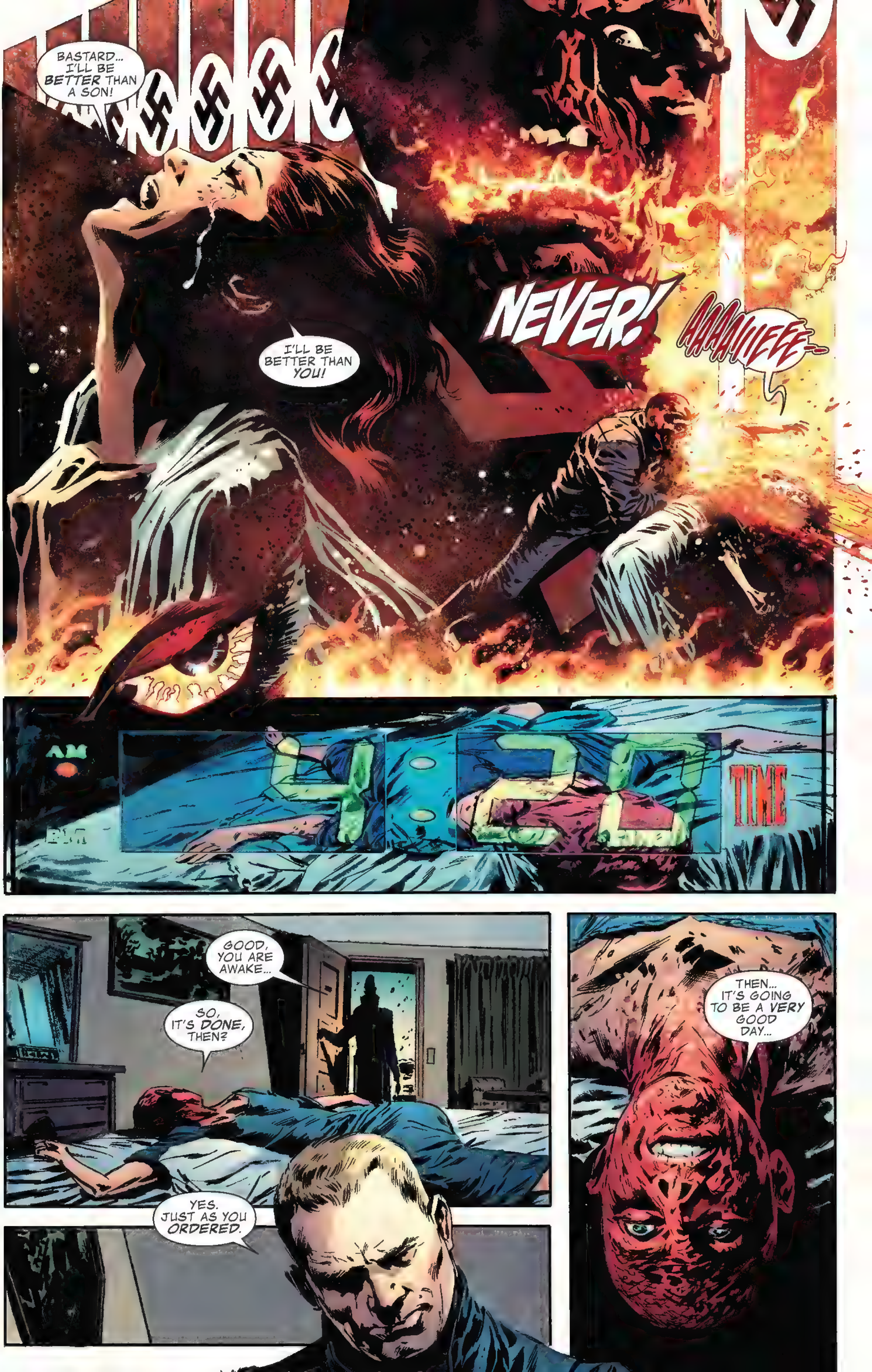

I'M JUST TRYING TO FIGURE WHAT HER NEXT MOVE WILL BE...
IT CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE SHE ESCAPED TWO DAYS BEFORE BUCKY'S TRIAL.
YOU THINK SHE'S GONNA TRY TO MESS WITH THE TRIAL SOMEHOW?
YOU DON'T? SHE'S THE RED SKULL'S DAUGHTER.
YEAH, BUT SHE'S NOT AS CALCULATING AS HER FATHER...
SHE'S MORE... IMPULSIVE...
SHE MAY JUST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE FACT THAT HALF THE HEROES OUT THERE ARE FOCUSING ON A COURT CASE...
...SO SHE CAN CREATE SOME CHAOS...
A GOOD POINT, SHARON... ONE THAT DOESN'T MAKE ME FEEL ANY BETTER.
ME NEITHER, BUT LET ME WORRY ABOUT COORDINATING WITH SAM AND TASHA FOR NOW...
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE HELPING BERNIE PREP HER WITNESS?

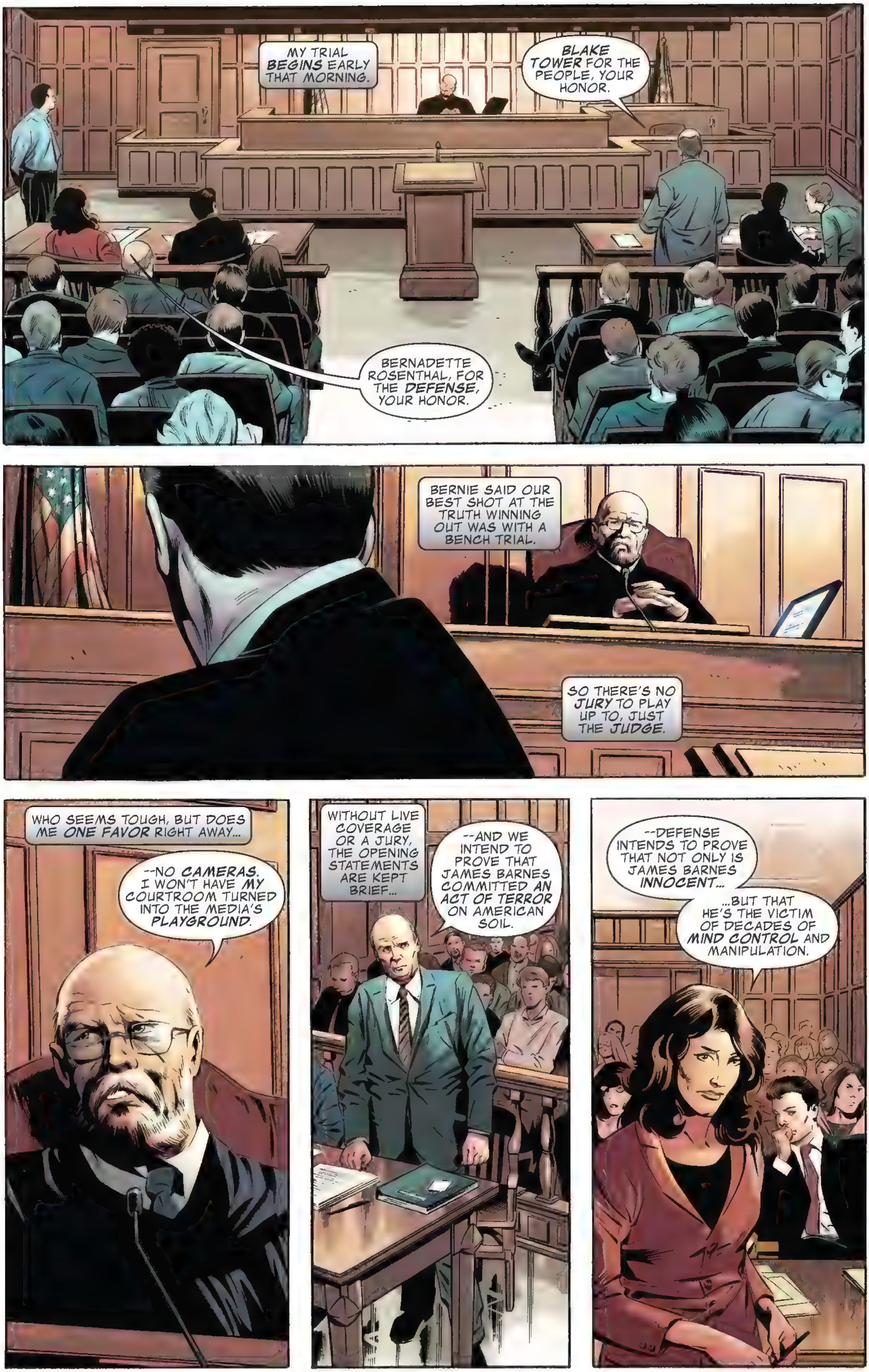

YOU WANT *WHAT?*
YOU *HEARD* ME, ROGERS... I WANT A *DEAL.*
YOU WANT ME TO BE A *WITNESS* FOR THE *DEFENSE,* THEN I NEED TO GET SOMETHING IN RETURN.
THE DEFENSE DOESN'T *GIVE* DEALS, FAUSTUS.
I'M NOT ASKING FOR A DEAL FROM... *HER.*
HEY... SHOULD I BE *OFFENDED* BY THAT TONE?
I'M ASKING FOR A DEAL FROM *YOU,* ROGERS.
FROM AMERICA'S NEW *"TOP COP."*
FROM THE MAN WHO HAS THE CURRENT *PRESIDENT'S* EAR.
YOU EXPECT A PRESIDENTIAL PARDON?
YOU HAVE *GOT* TO BE JOKING, FAT MAN.

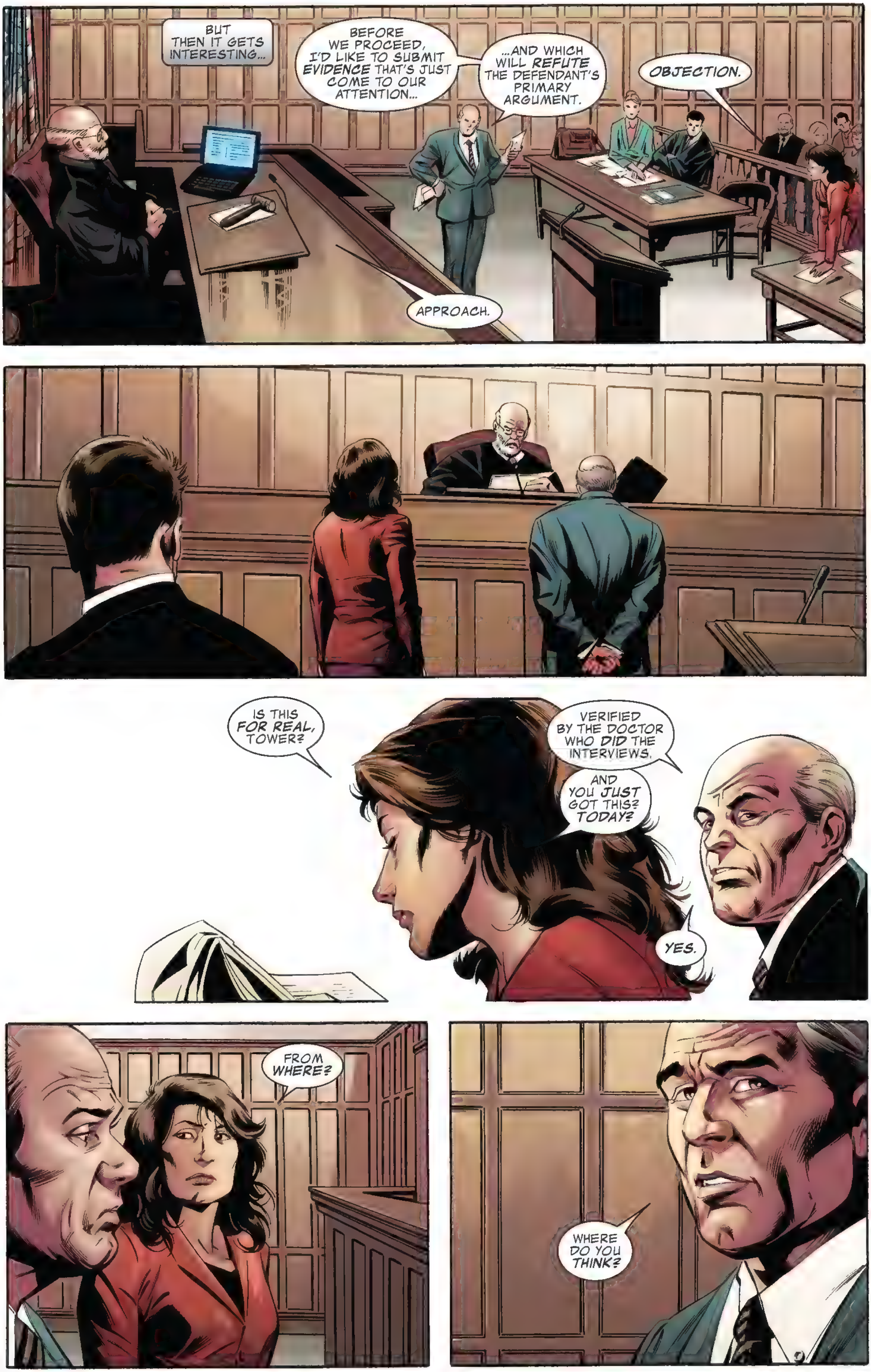

WE BOTH KNOW I'M NOT.
OR MAYBE YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER EXPERT ON MIND CONTROL WHO'S FAMILIAR WITH THE WINTER SOLDIER'S HISTORY?
FINE. YOU WANT A DEAL? THIS IS THE ONLY ONE AVAILABLE.
YOU TESTIFY IN THIS TRIAL, AND I'LL RELEASE THE OLD S.H.I.E.L.D. INTEL ABOUT YOU FLIPPING ON THE RED SKULL TO THE PUBLIC.
SO EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOUR TIP FOILED THE PLOT TO ASSASSINATE THE PRESIDENT.

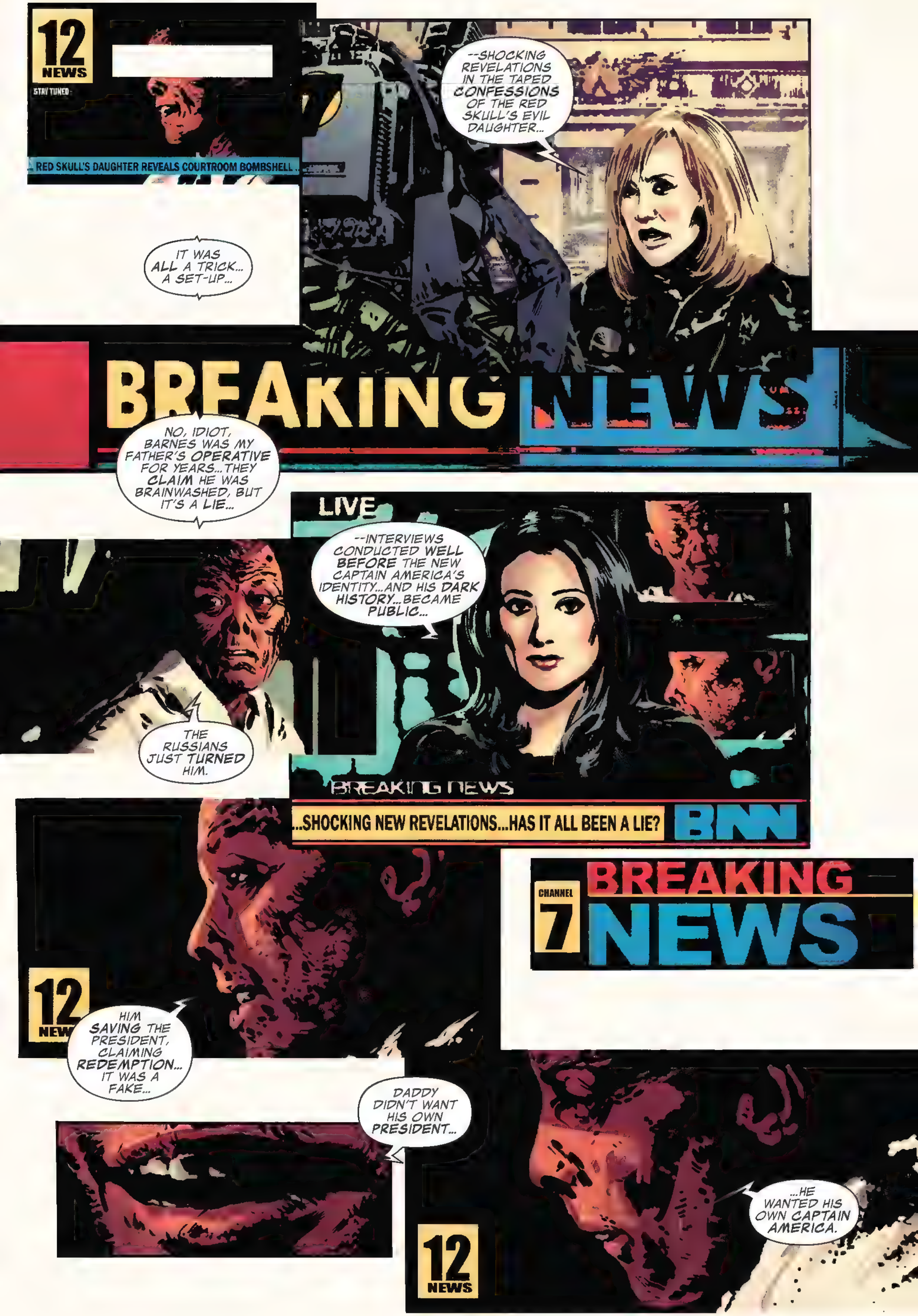

THAT ACT WILL GUARANTEE YOU **LENIENCY** IN ANY CHARGES FILED AFTER YOU TESTIFY.
HMMM... THAT DOESN'T **SEEM** LIKE SUCH A **FANTASTIC** DEAL.
WELL, THERE'S AN ALTERNATIVE.
AND WHAT'S **THAT?**
I **DESTROY** ALL THAT S.H.I.E.L.D. INTEL AND INSTEAD...
WE **IMPLICATE YOU** IN THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF **CAPTAIN AMERICA**...
...**AND** THE RED SKULL'S PLOT TO KILL A PRESIDENT AND **TAKE OVER** THE COUNTRY.
WHICH I'M **GUESSING** GETS YOU TRIED AND EXECUTED FOR **SEDITION.**
YOU'VE CHANGED, ROGERS.
NOT REALLY.
VERY WELL... BUT CAN WE **AT LEAST** GET ME OUT OF THESE **HANDCUFFS?**
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M SOME **SAVAGE,** AFTER ALL...

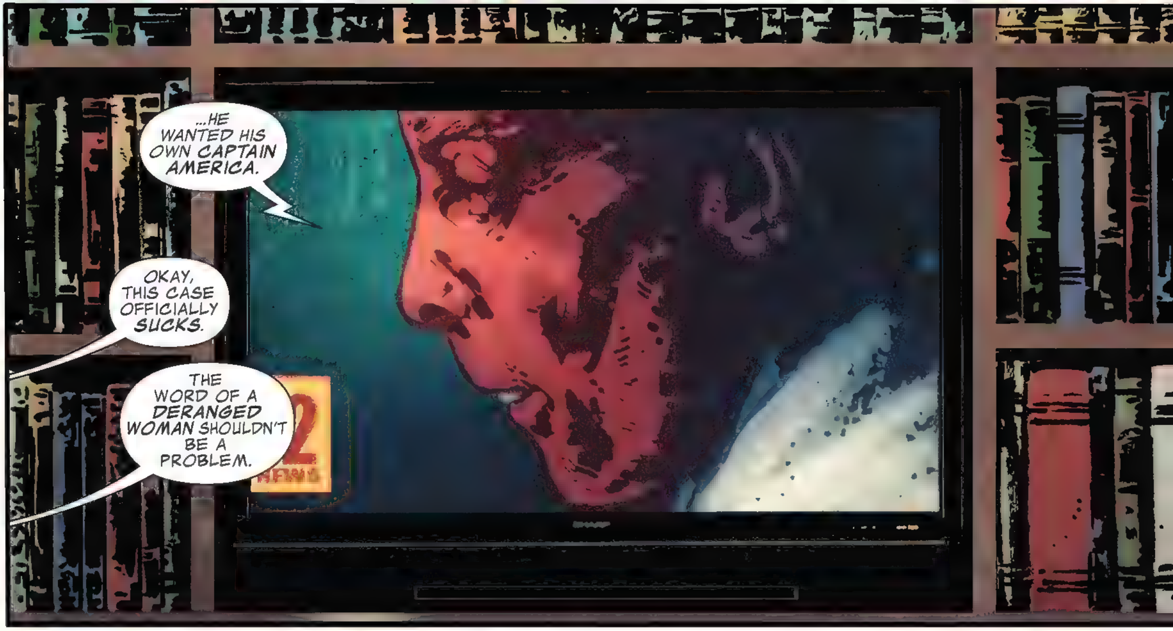

Sin's Dream
NOOOOOOO!
DADDY! DON'T!
OH, CEASE YOUR INFERNAL CHATTERING!
NO SON OF MINE WILL BE BORN A GIRL!
DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU COULD HAVE BEEN?!
INSTEAD YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A DISAPPOINTMENT...
...THAT'S ALL YOU'VE EVER BEEN!
NO, DADDY, WAIT...I'LL BE BETTER THAN A SON...
I'LL BE EVERYTHING YOU--
GET AWAY FROM ME, WENCH!

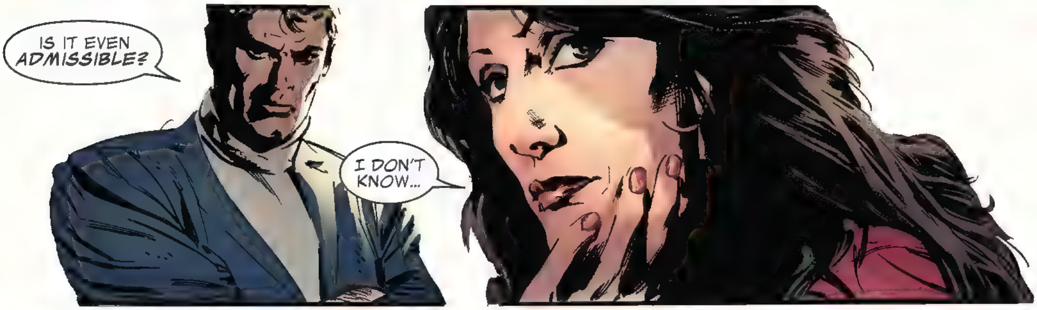

BASTARD... I'LL BE BETTER THAN A SON!
I'LL BE BETTER THAN YOU!
NEVER!
AAAAIIEEE--
AM
4:20
TIME
GOOD, YOU ARE AWAKE...
SO, IT'S DONE, THEN?
YES. JUST AS YOU ORDERED.
THEN... IT'S GOING TO BE A VERY GOOD DAY...

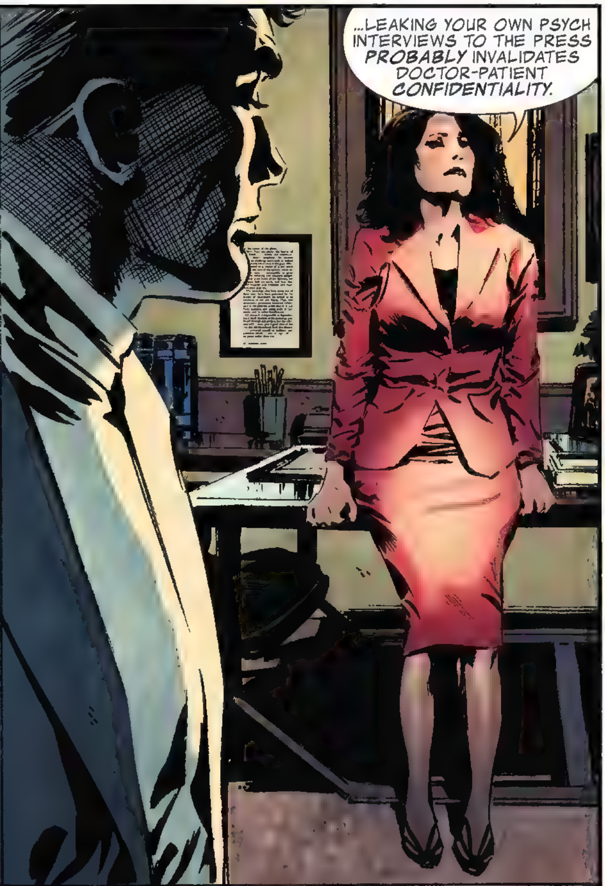

MY TRIAL BEGINS EARLY THAT MORNING.
BLAKE TOWER FOR THE PEOPLE, YOUR HONOR.
BERNADETTE ROSENTHAL, FOR THE DEFENSE, YOUR HONOR.
BERNIE SAID OUR BEST SHOT AT THE TRUTH WINNING OUT WAS WITH A BENCH TRIAL.
SO THERE'S NO JURY TO PLAY UP TO, JUST THE JUDGE.
WHO SEEMS TOUGH, BUT DOES ME ONE FAVOR RIGHT AWAY...
--NO CAMERAS. I WON'T HAVE MY COURTROOM TURNED INTO THE MEDIA'S PLAYGROUND.
WITHOUT LIVE COVERAGE OR A JURY, THE OPENING STATEMENTS ARE KEPT BRIEF...
--AND WE INTEND TO PROVE THAT JAMES BARNES COMMITTED AN ACT OF TERROR ON AMERICAN SOIL.
--DEFENSE INTENDS TO PROVE THAT NOT ONLY IS JAMES BARNES INNOCENT...
...BUT THAT HE'S THE VICTIM OF DECADES OF MIND CONTROL AND MANIPULATION.

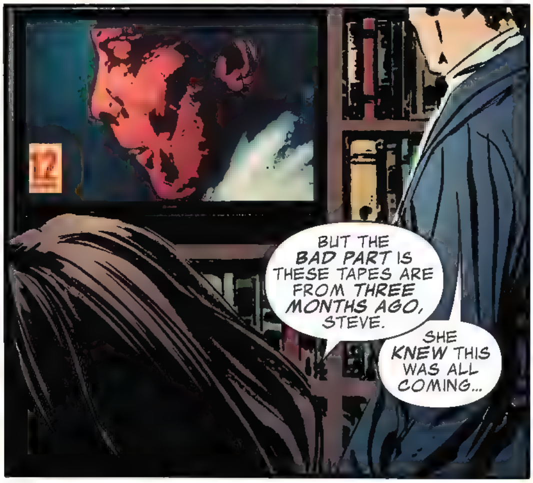

BUT THEN IT GETS INTERESTING...
BEFORE WE PROCEED, I'D LIKE TO SUBMIT *EVIDENCE* THAT'S JUST COME TO OUR ATTENTION...
...AND WHICH WILL *REFUTE* THE DEFENDANT'S PRIMARY ARGUMENT.
OBJECTION.
APPROACH.
IS THIS *FOR REAL,* TOWER?
VERIFIED BY THE DOCTOR WHO *DID* THE INTERVIEWS.
AND YOU *JUST* GOT THIS? *TODAY?*
YES.
FROM *WHERE?*
WHERE DO YOU *THINK?*

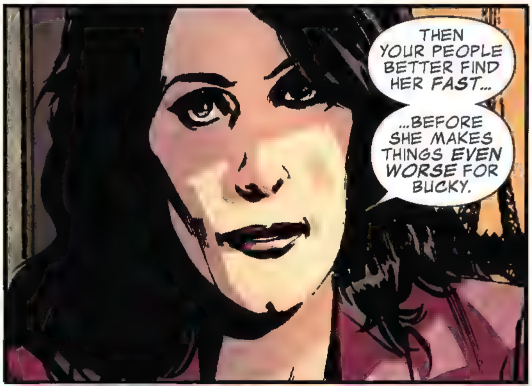

12 NEWS
STAY TUNED
RED SKULL'S DAUGHTER REVEALS COURTROOM BOMBSHELL...
--SHOCKING REVELATIONS IN THE TAPED CONFESSIONS OF THE RED SKULL'S EVIL DAUGHTER...
IT WAS ALL A TRICK... A SET-UP...
BREAKING NEWS
NO, IDIOT, BARNES WAS MY FATHER'S OPERATIVE FOR YEARS...THEY CLAIM HE WAS BRAINWASHED, BUT IT'S A LIE...
LIVE
--INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED WELL BEFORE THE NEW CAPTAIN AMERICA'S IDENTITY...AND HIS DARK HISTORY...BECAME PUBLIC...
THE RUSSIANS JUST TURNED HIM.
BREAKING NEWS
...SHOCKING NEW REVELATIONS...HAS IT ALL BEEN A LIE?
BNN
CHANNEL 7
BREAKING NEWS
12 NEWS
HIM SAVING THE PRESIDENT, CLAIMING REDEMPTION... IT WAS A FAKE...
DADDY DIDN'T WANT HIS OWN PRESIDENT...
12 NEWS
...HE WANTED HIS OWN CAPTAIN AMERICA.

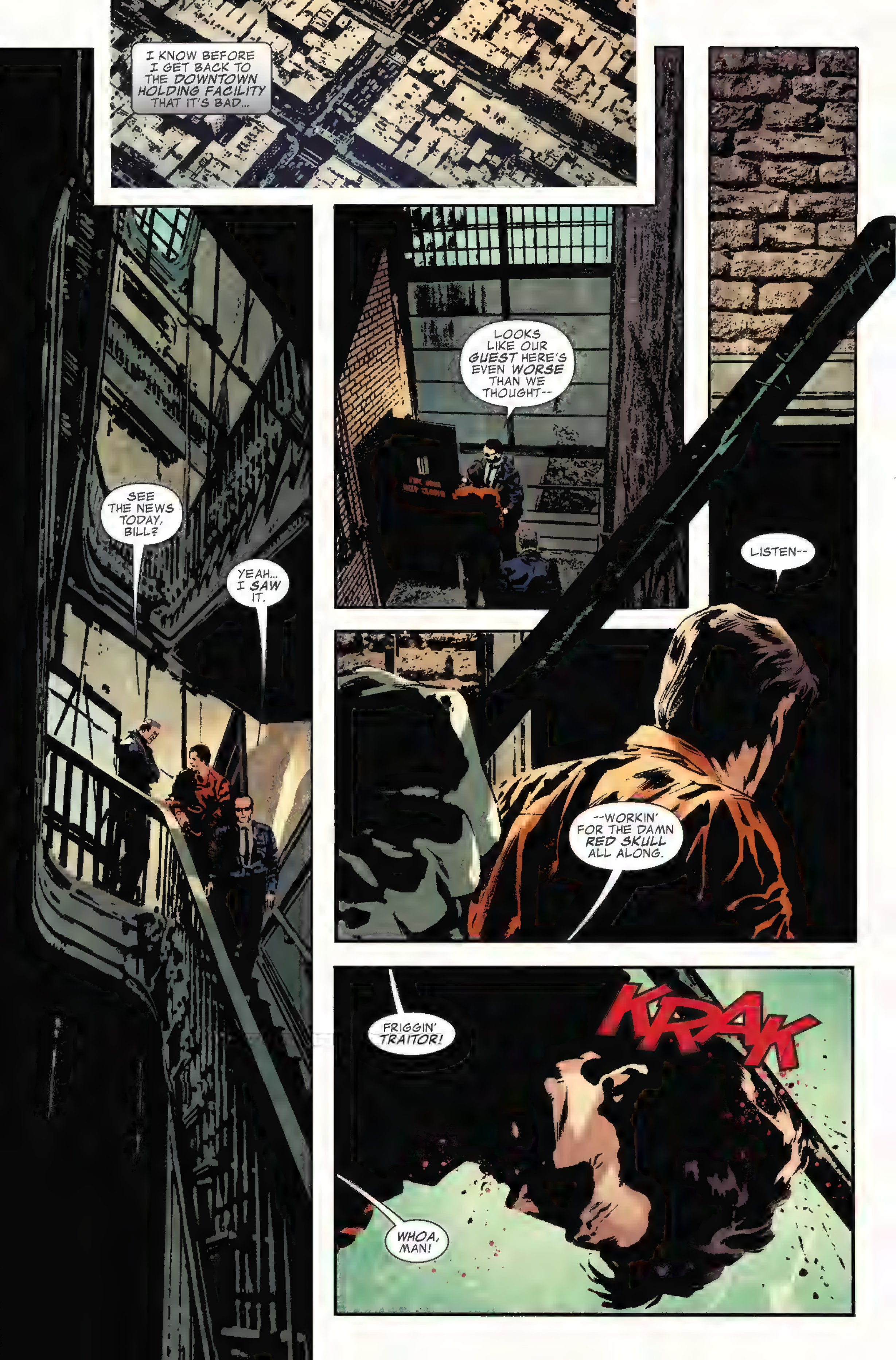

...HE WANTED HIS OWN CAPTAIN AMERICA.
OKAY, THIS CASE OFFICIALLY SUCKS.
THE WORD OF A DERANGED WOMAN SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM.
2 NEWS

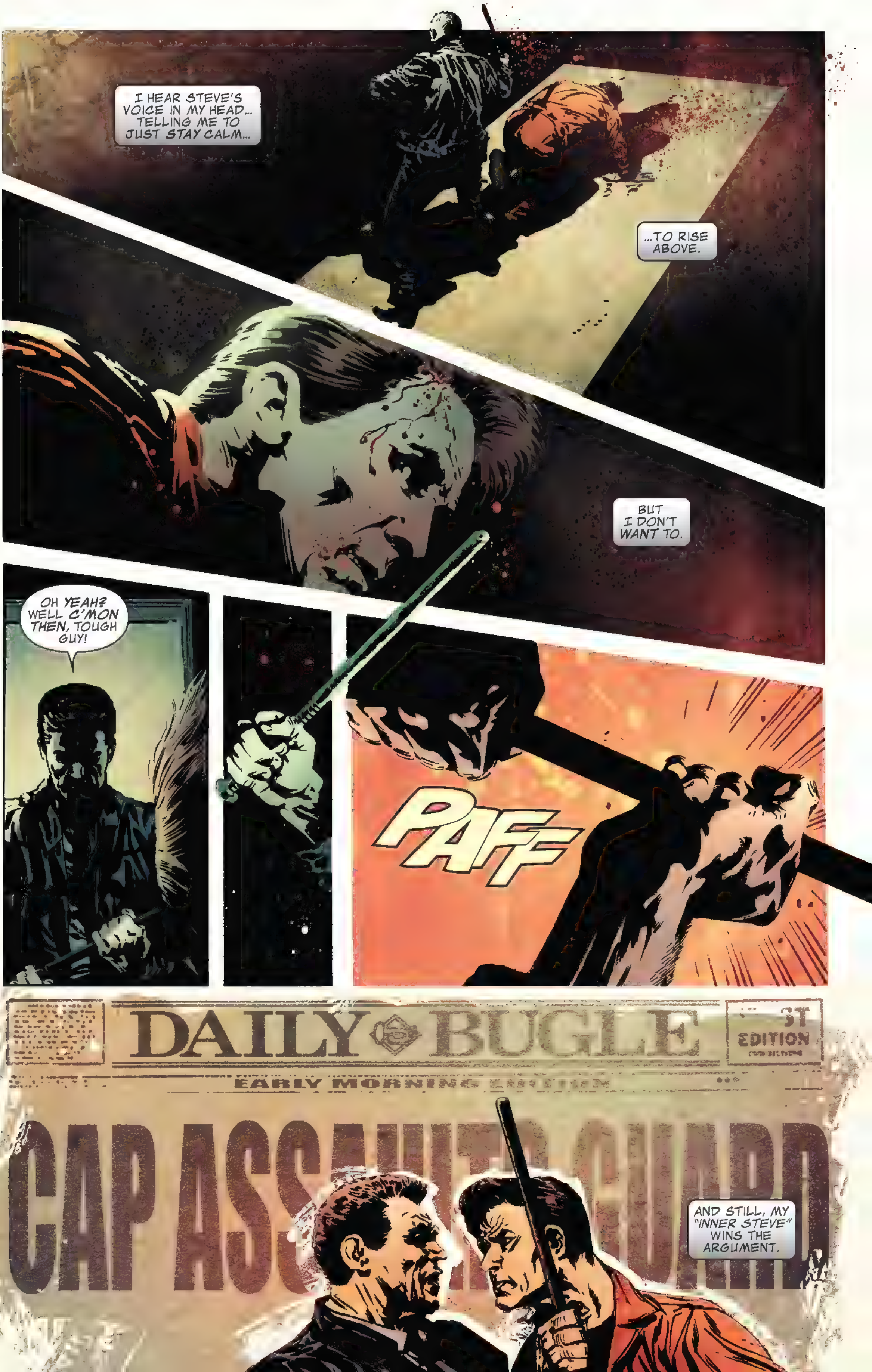

IS IT EVEN ADMISSIBLE?
I DON'T KNOW...

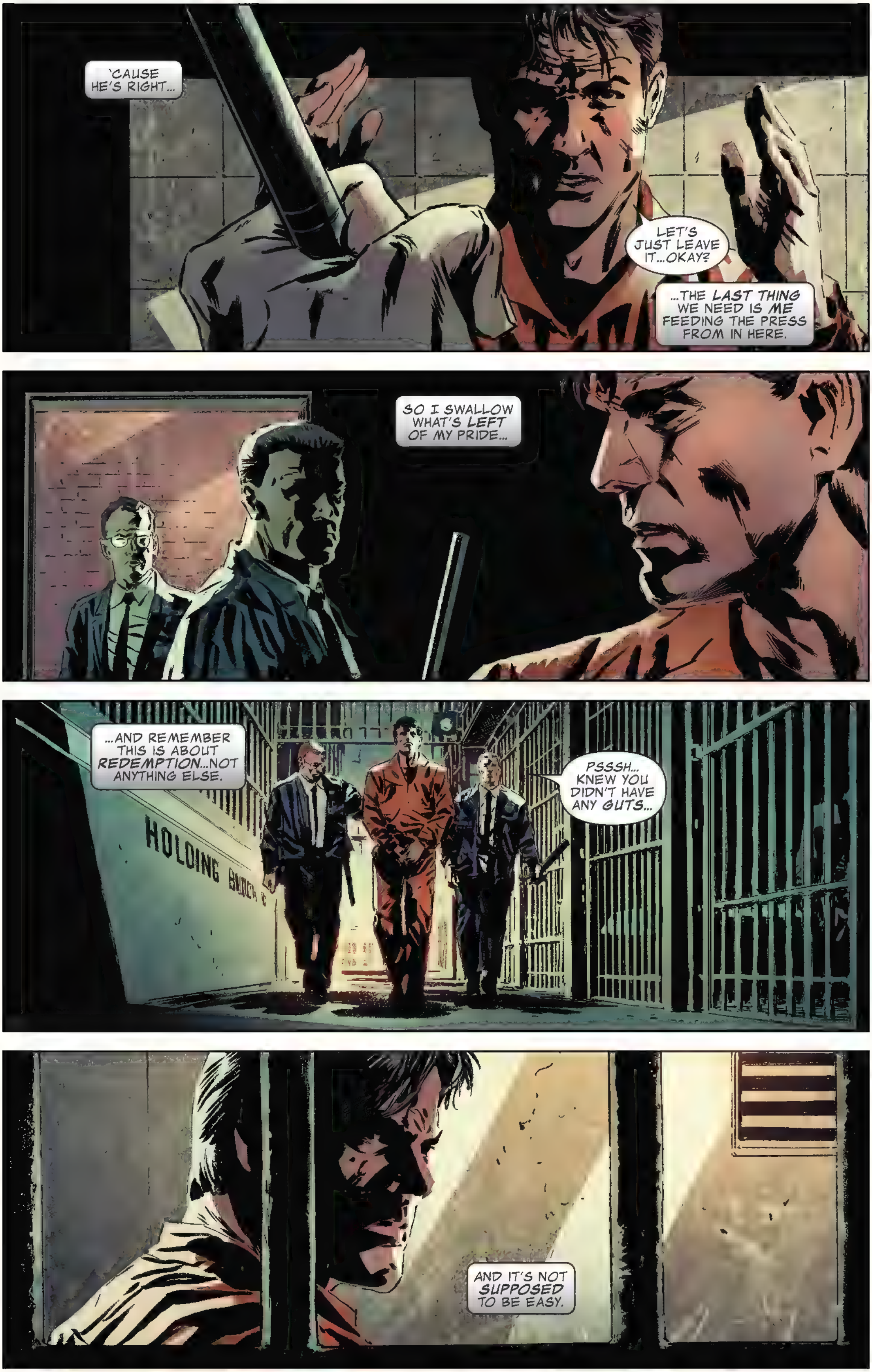

...LEAKING YOUR OWN PSYCH INTERVIEWS TO THE PRESS PROBABLY INVALIDATES DOCTOR-PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY.

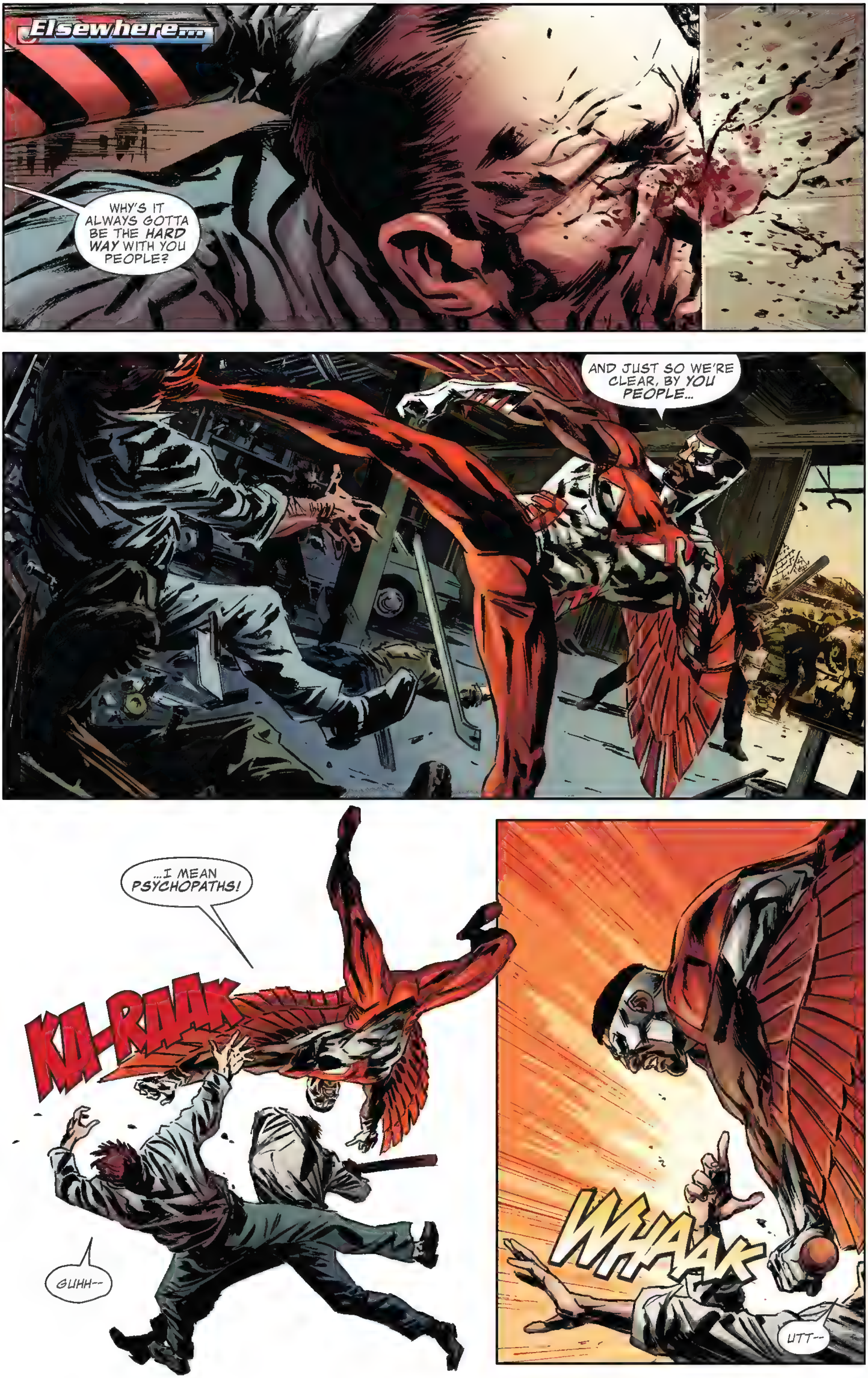

12
BUT THE BAD PART IS THESE TAPES ARE FROM THREE MONTHS AGO, STEVE.
SHE KNEW THIS WAS ALL COMING...

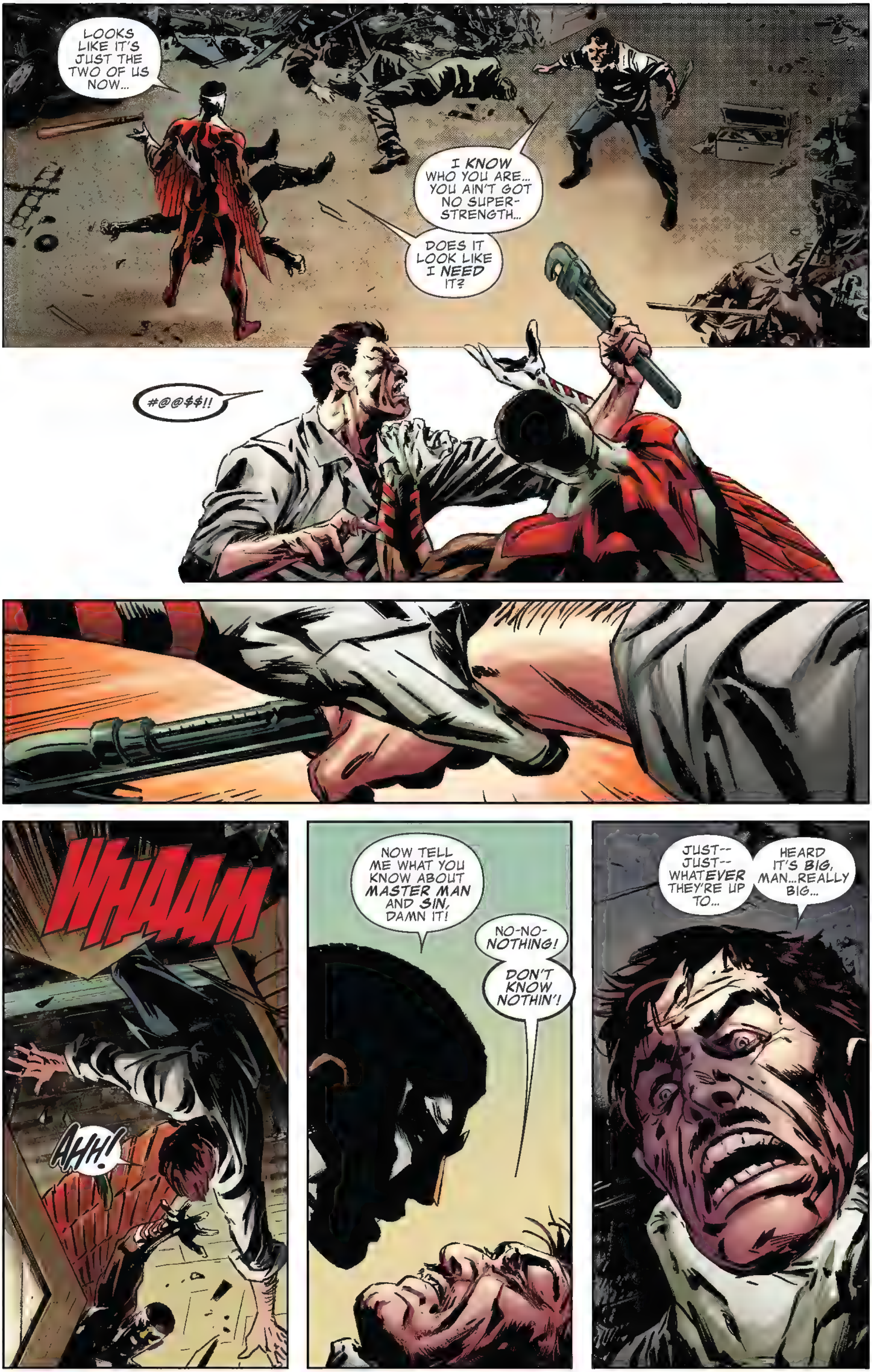

THEN YOUR PEOPLE BETTER FIND HER FAST...
...BEFORE SHE MAKES THINGS EVEN WORSE FOR BUCKY.

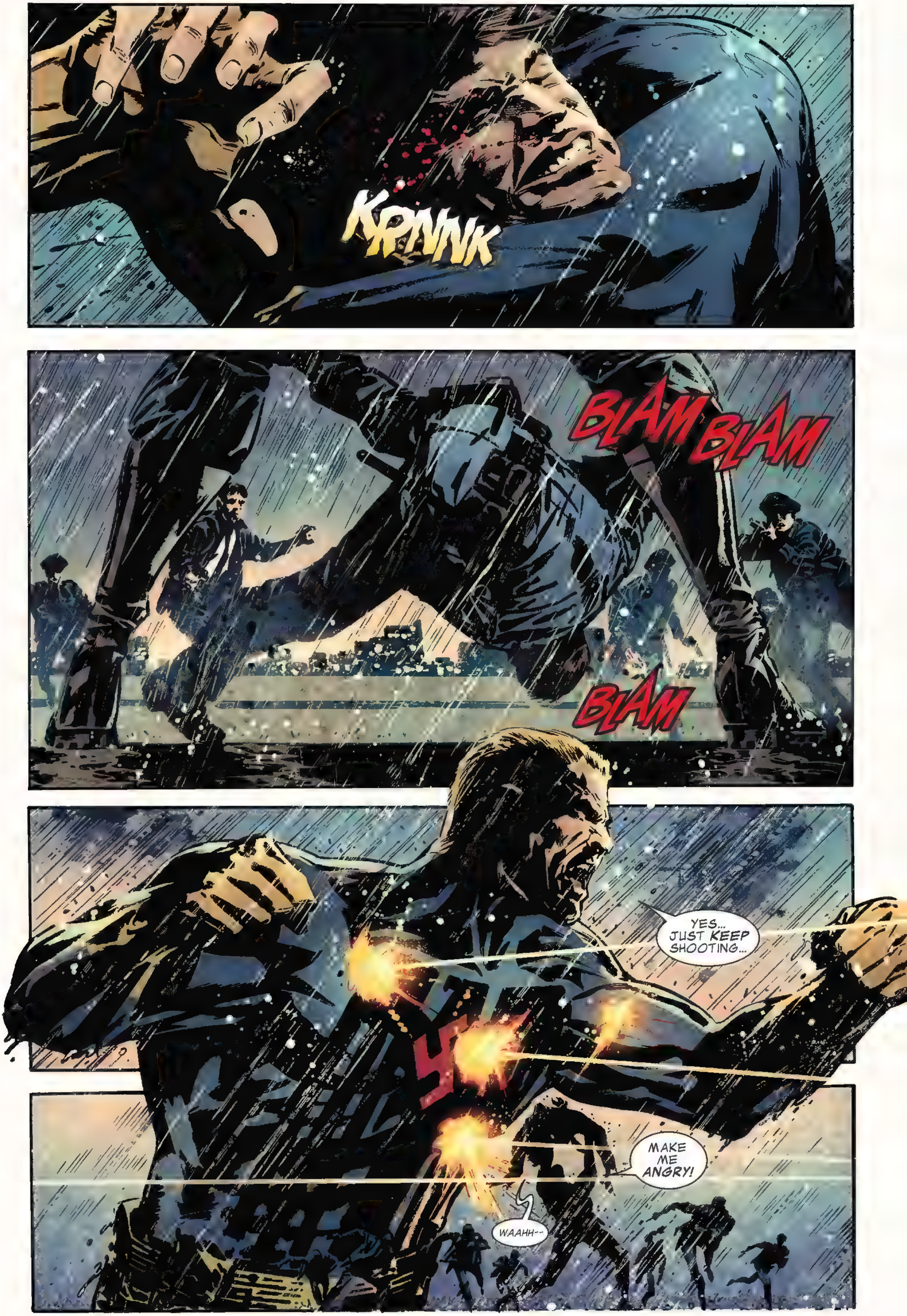

I KNOW BEFORE I GET BACK TO THE DOWNTOWN HOLDING FACILITY THAT IT'S BAD...
SEE THE NEWS TODAY, BILL?
YEAH... I SAW IT.
LOOKS LIKE OUR GUEST HERE'S EVEN WORSE THAN WE THOUGHT--
LISTEN--
--WORKIN' FOR THE DAMN RED SKULL ALL ALONG.
FRIGGIN' TRAITOR!
KRAK
WHOA, MAN!

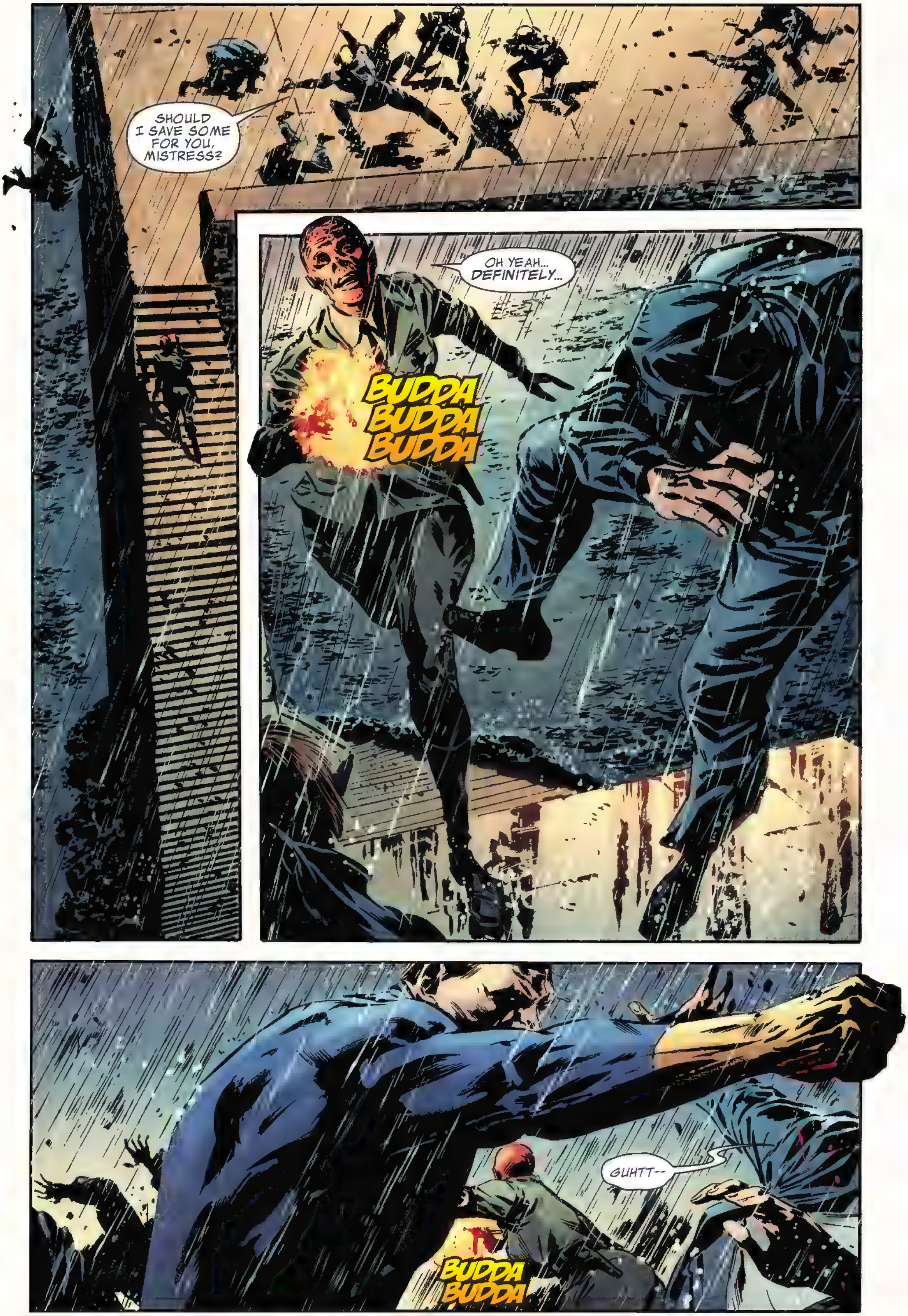

I HEAR STEVE'S VOICE IN MY HEAD... TELLING ME TO JUST *STAY* CALM...
...TO RISE ABOVE.
BUT I DON'T *WANT* TO.
OH *YEAH?* WELL *C'MON* THEN, TOUGH GUY!
PAFF
DAILY BUGLE
ST EDITION
EARLY MORNING EDITION
CAP ASSAULTS GUARD
AND STILL, MY "*INNER STEVE*" WINS THE ARGUMENT.

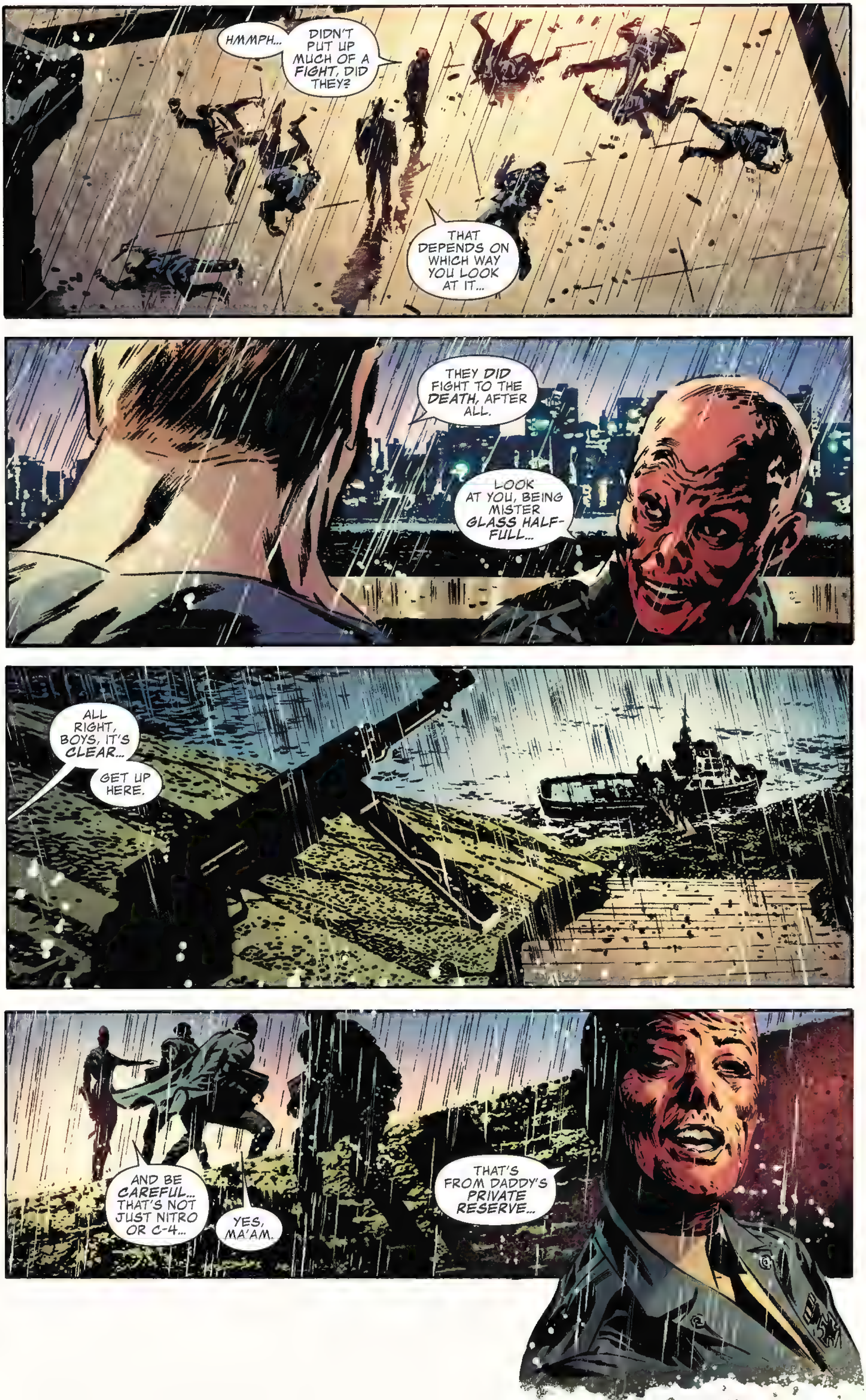

'CAUSE HE'S RIGHT...
LET'S JUST LEAVE IT...OKAY?
...THE *LAST THING* WE NEED IS *ME* FEEDING THE PRESS FROM IN HERE.
SO I SWALLOW WHAT'S *LEFT* OF MY PRIDE...
...AND REMEMBER THIS IS ABOUT *REDEMPTION*...NOT ANYTHING ELSE.
HOLDING BLOCK C
PSSSH... KNEW YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY *GUTS*...
AND IT'S NOT *SUPPOSED* TO BE EASY.

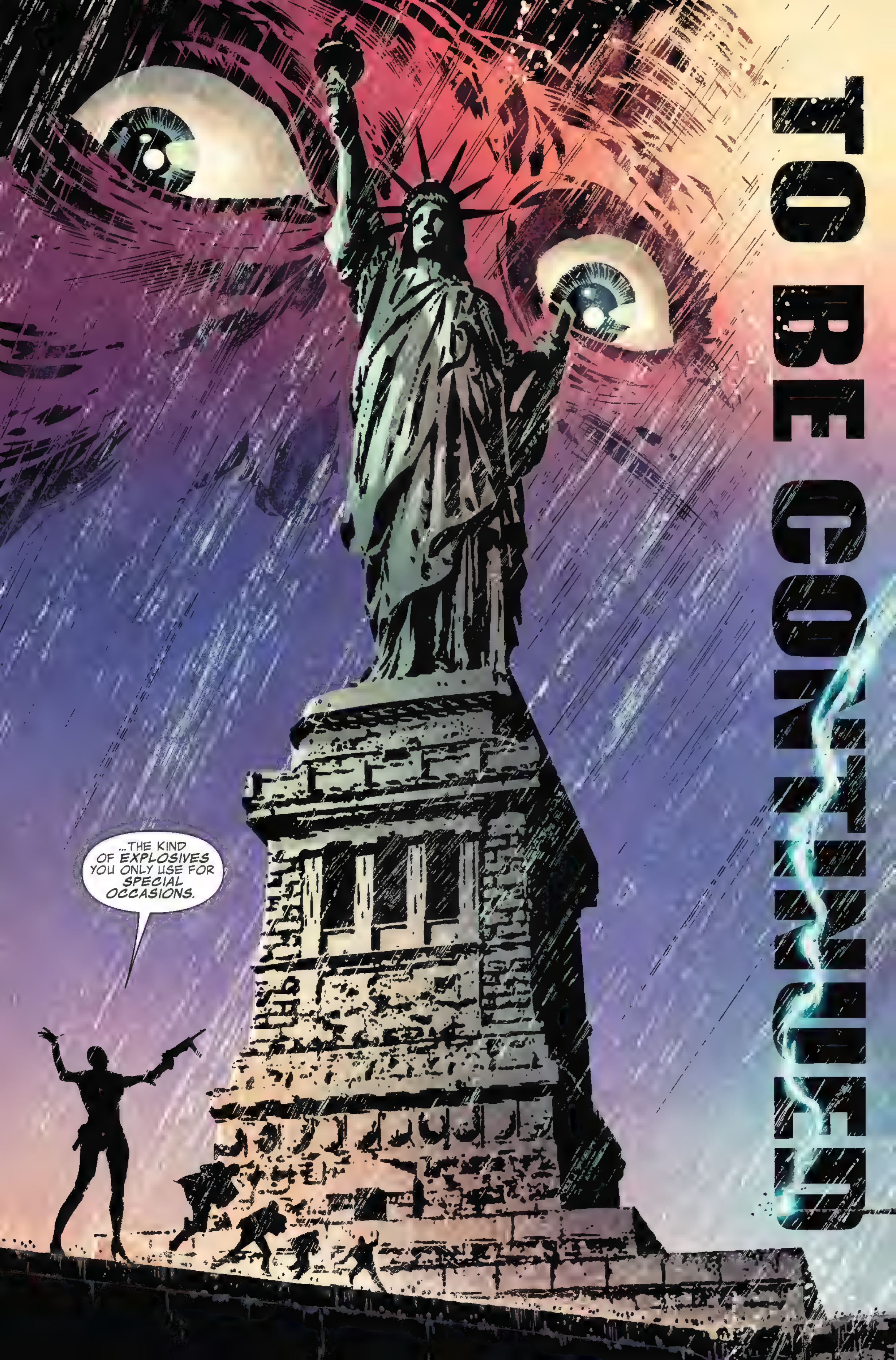

Elsewhere...
WHY'S IT ALWAYS GOTTA BE THE HARD WAY WITH YOU PEOPLE?
AND JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR, BY YOU PEOPLE...
...I MEAN PSYCHOPATHS!
KA-RAAK
GUHH--
WHAAK
UTT--


LOOKS LIKE IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US NOW...
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE... YOU AIN'T GOT NO SUPER-STRENGTH...
DOES IT LOOK LIKE I NEED IT?
#@@$$!!
WHAAM
AHH!
NOW TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT MASTER MAN AND SIN, DAMN IT!
NO-NO-NOTHING!
DON'T KNOW NOTHIN'!
JUST-- JUST-- WHATEVER THEY'RE UP TO...
HEARD IT'S BIG, MAN...REALLY BIG...


KRNNK
BLAM BLAM
BLAM
YES... JUST KEEP SHOOTING...
MAKE ME ANGRY!
WAAHH--


SHOULD I SAVE SOME FOR YOU, MISTRESS?
OH YEAH... DEFINITELY...
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
GUHTT--
BUDDA BUDDA


HMMPH...
DIDN'T PUT UP MUCH OF A FIGHT, DID THEY?
THAT DEPENDS ON WHICH WAY YOU LOOK AT IT...
THEY DID FIGHT TO THE DEATH, AFTER ALL.
LOOK AT YOU, BEING MISTER GLASS HALF-FULL...
ALL RIGHT, BOYS, IT'S CLEAR...
GET UP HERE.
AND BE CAREFUL... THAT'S NOT JUST NITRO OR C-4...
YES, MA'AM.
THAT'S FROM DADDY'S PRIVATE RESERVE...


...THE KIND OF EXPLOSIVES YOU ONLY USE FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS.
TO BE CONTINUED

MARVEL
ALSO FEATURING
NOMAD

614

CAPTAIN AMERICA

BRUBAKER
GUICE
GAUDIANO
BREITWEISER

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WAR
Is Begun
Congress Takes
Prompt Action

CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But Bucky has a dark and secret past as the Winter Soldier - an assassin trained, employed, and mentally manipulated by the KGB to stymie U.S. efforts in the Cold War. A past that Baron Zemo has exposed to the world. And with the media frenzy building, Steve Rogers can't stand to see his wartime partner's name stained any more: Hiring Bernie Rosenthal as Bucky's defense attorney, the decision is made to keep Bucky off the witness stand in his trial, so the details of his time as the Winter Soldier are kept to a minimum.

As Bucky stews in prison, another of Cap's most vicious enemies, Master Man, resurfaces and liberates Sin, the daughter of the Red Skull, from a mental ward. Taking up her father's mantle, Sin's first act is to further damage Bucky's reputation by releasing months-old tapes of her own psychological interviews in which she paints Bucky as a willing pawn of her father. And, as Falcon and the Black Widow try to hunt her down, Sin puts the next phase of her plan into motion... by preparing to blow up the Statue of Liberty.

THE TRIAL OF CAPTAIN AMERICA part 4

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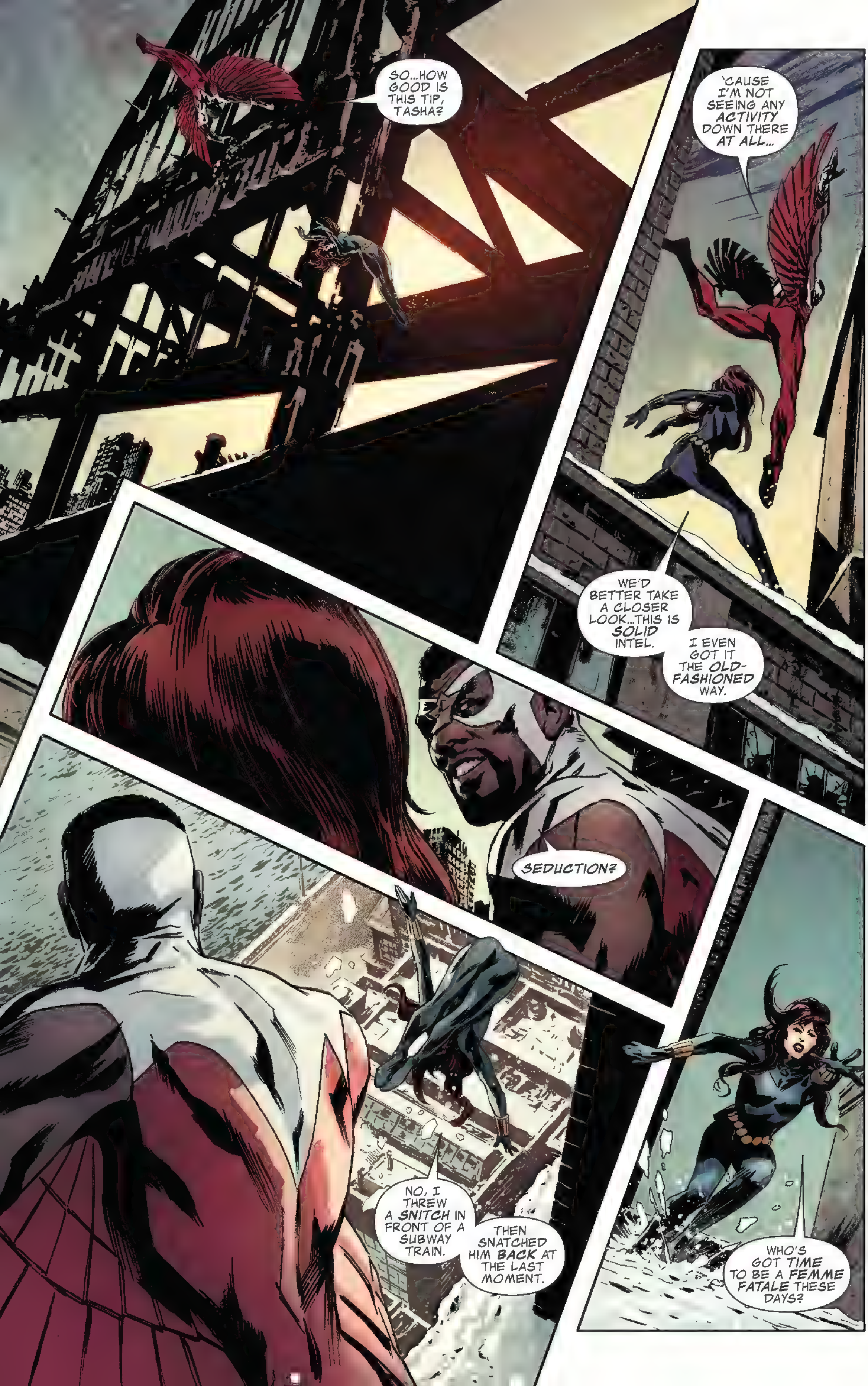
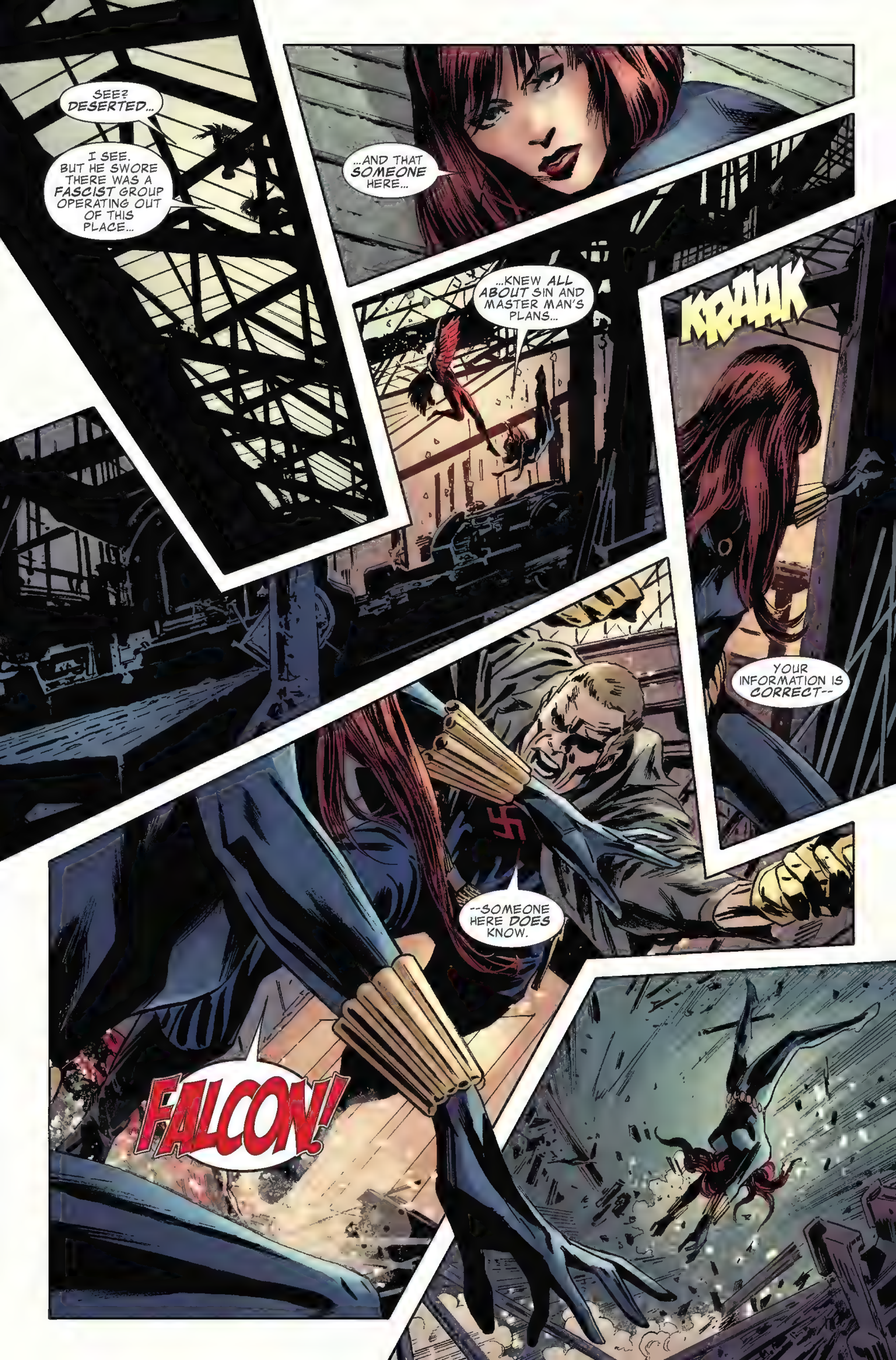
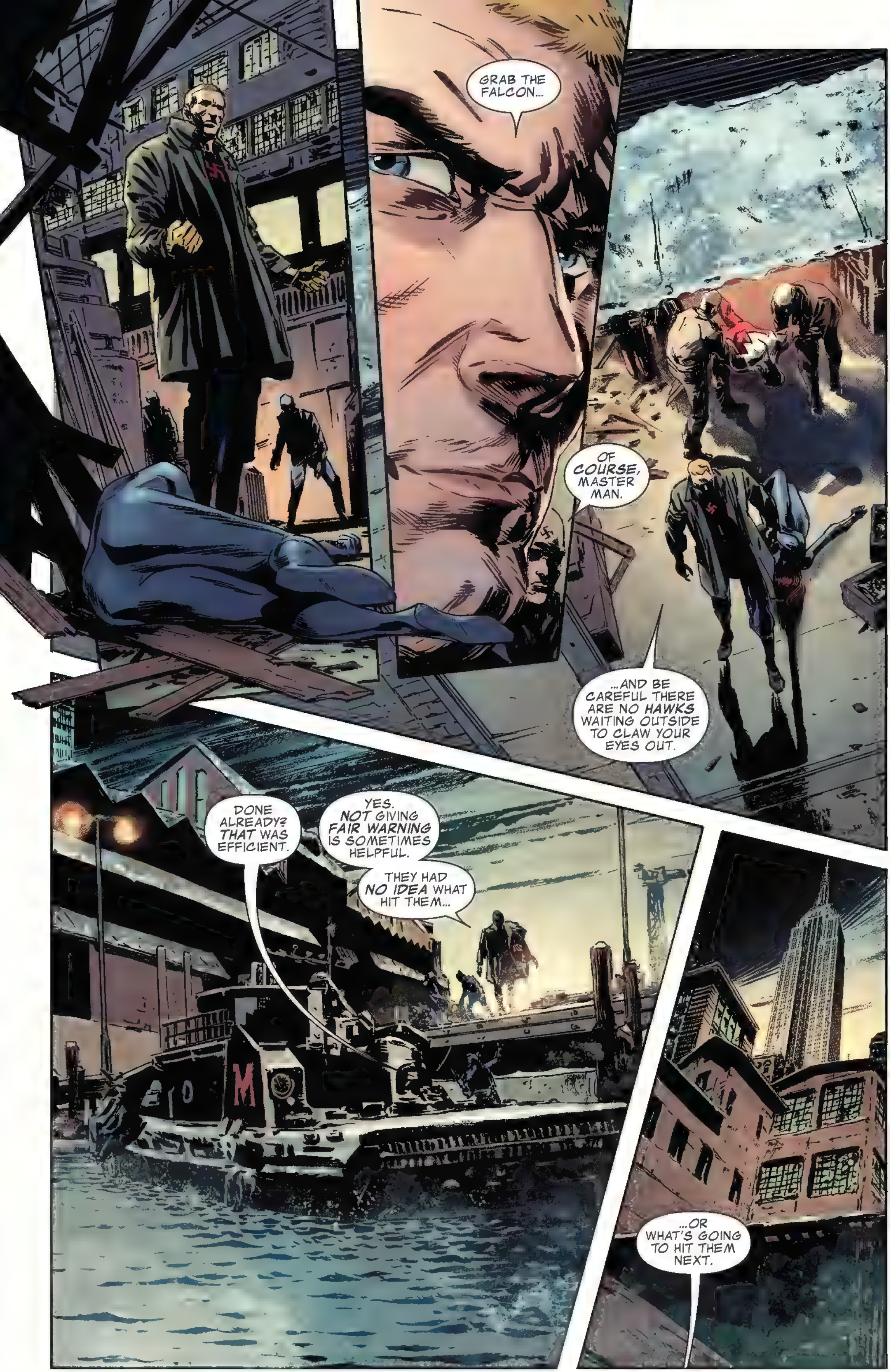
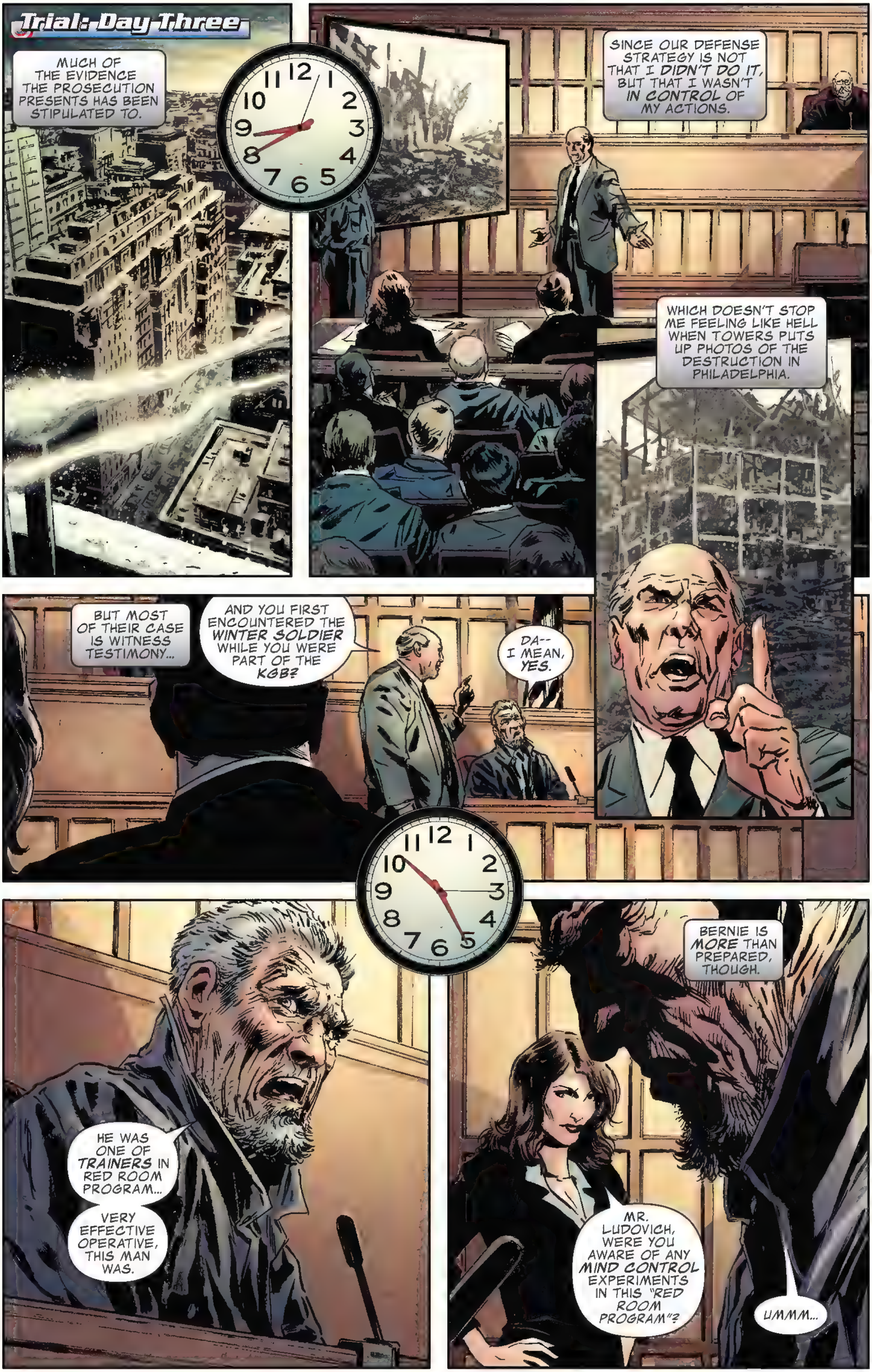
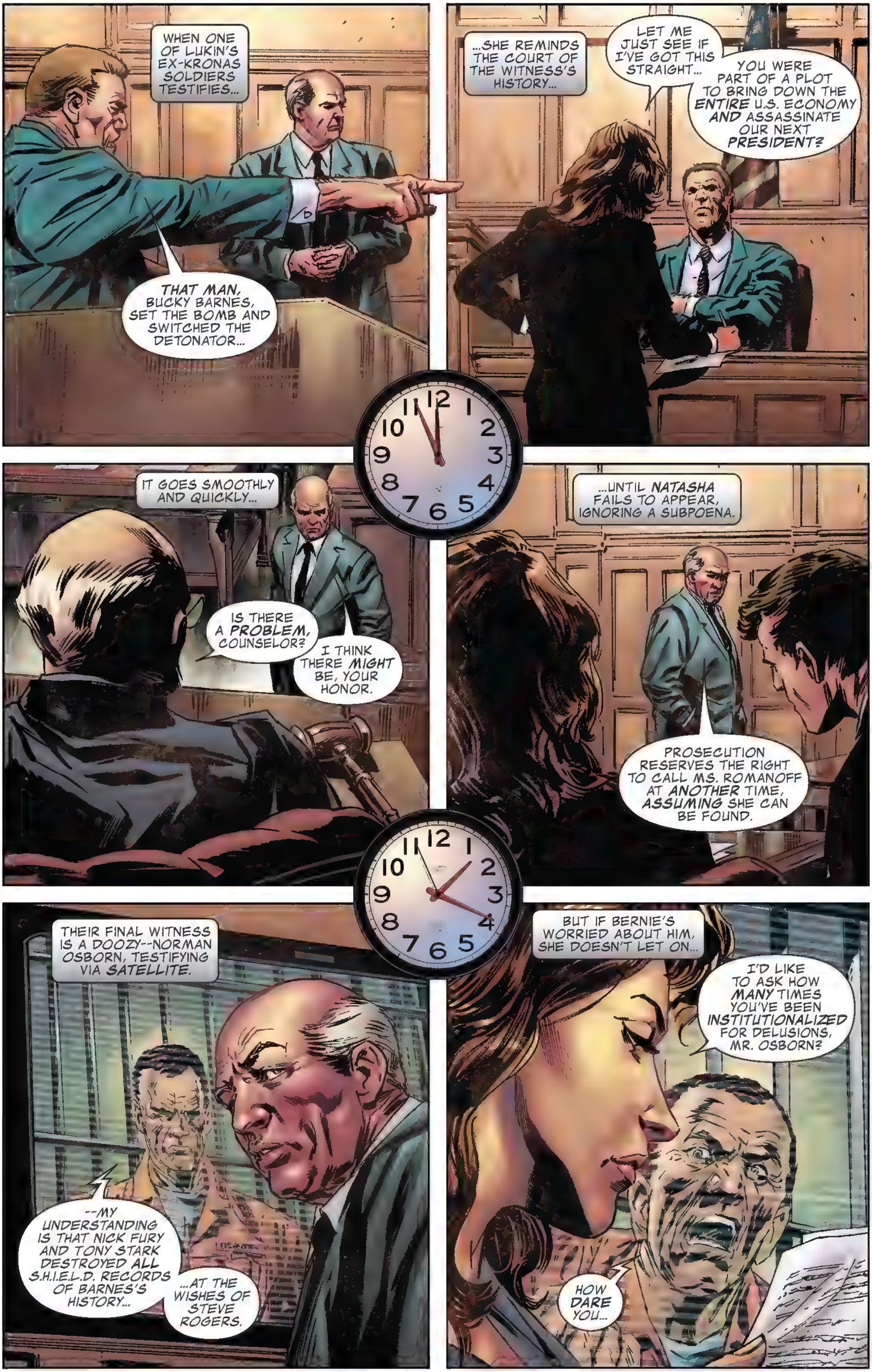
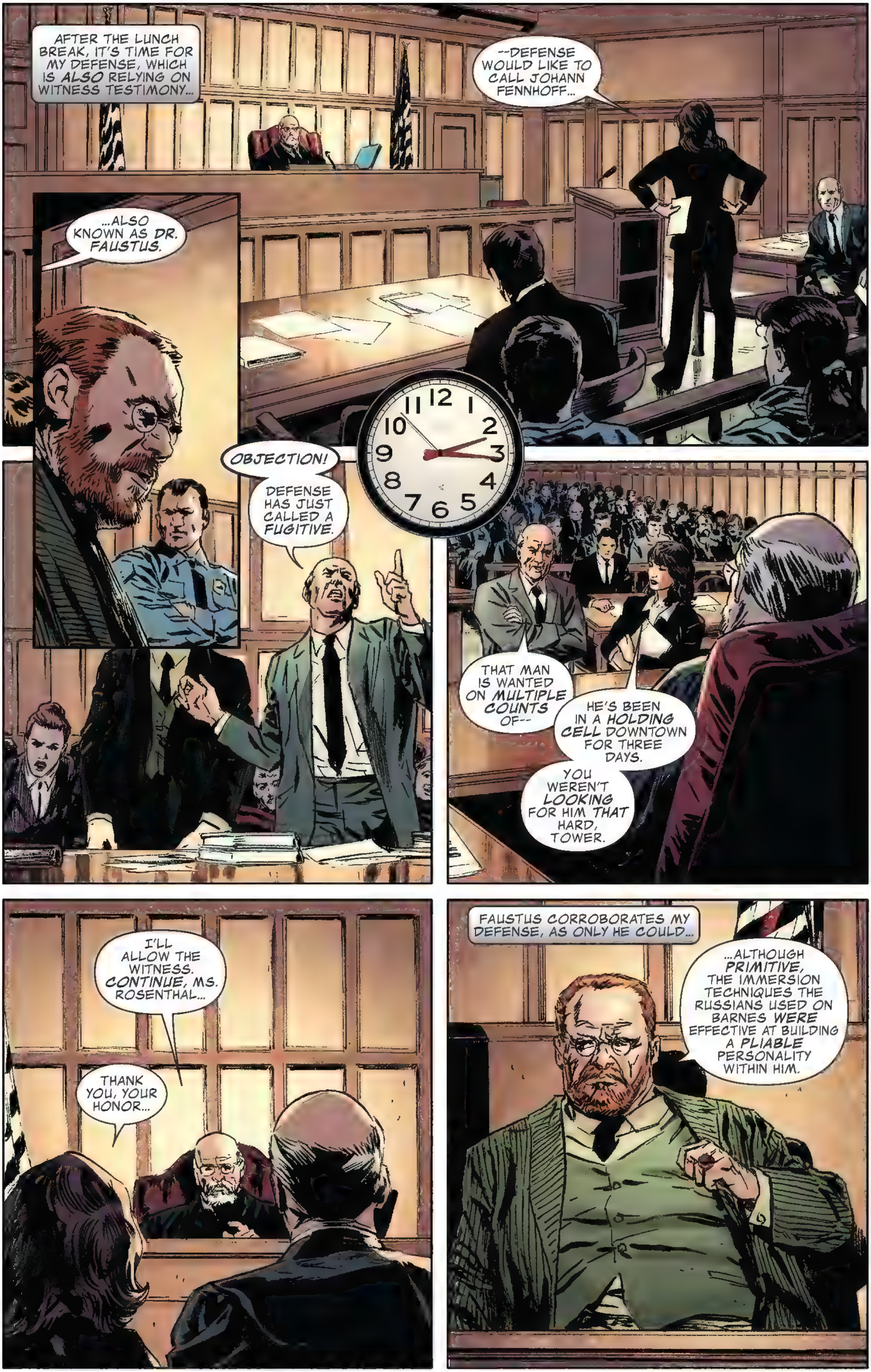

SO...HOW GOOD IS THIS TIP, TASHA?
'CAUSE I'M NOT SEEING ANY *ACTIVITY* DOWN THERE *AT ALL*...
WE'D BETTER TAKE A CLOSER LOOK...THIS IS *SOLID* INTEL.
I EVEN GOT IT THE *OLD-FASHIONED* WAY.
SEDUCTION?
NO, I THREW A *SNITCH* IN FRONT OF A SUBWAY TRAIN.
THEN SNATCHED HIM *BACK* AT THE LAST MOMENT.
WHO'S GOT *TIME* TO BE A *FEMME FATALE* THESE DAYS?

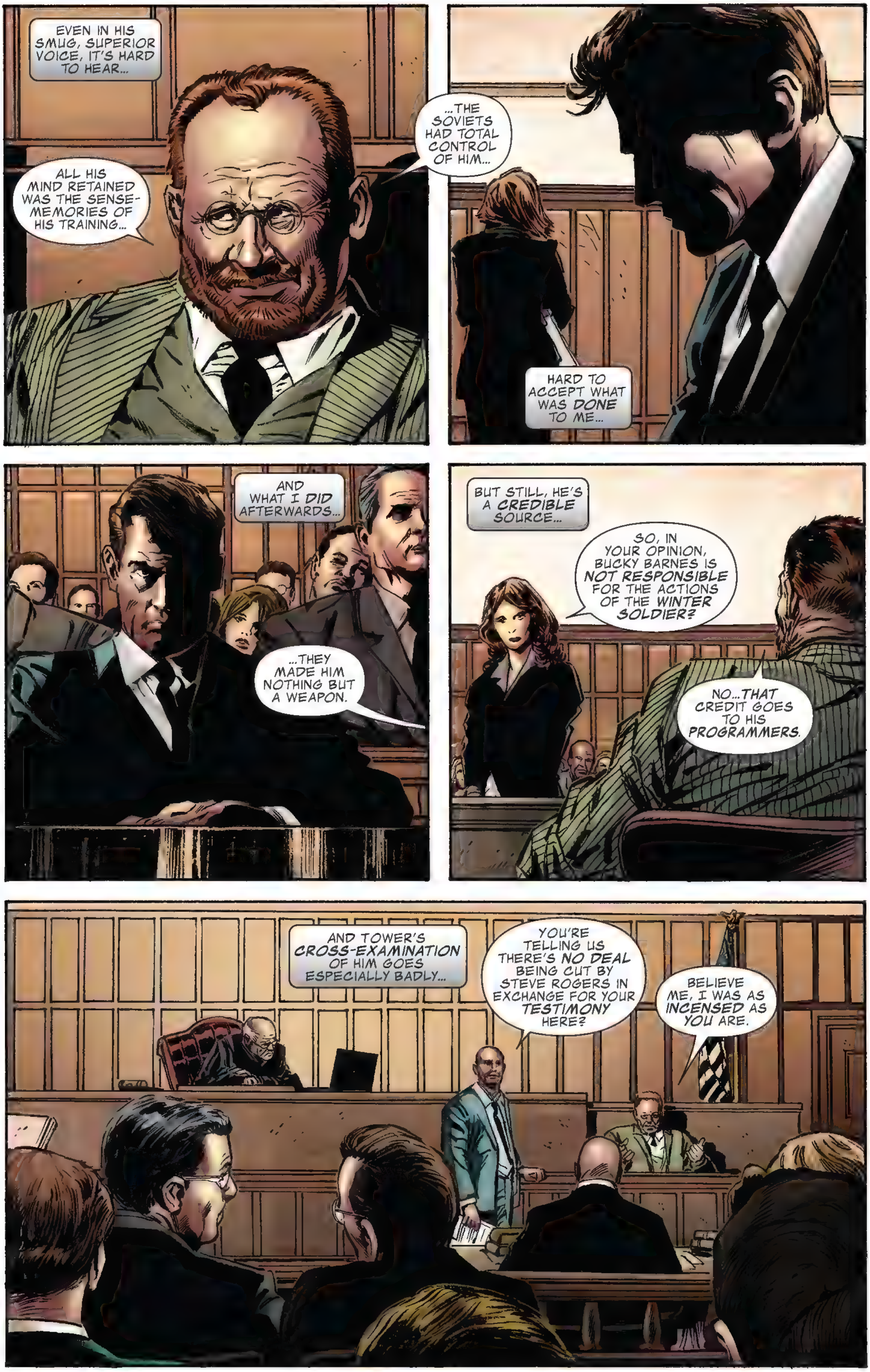

SEE? DESERTED...
I SEE. BUT HE SWORE THERE WAS A FASCIST GROUP OPERATING OUT OF THIS PLACE...
...AND THAT SOMEONE HERE...
...KNEW ALL ABOUT SIN AND MASTER MAN'S PLANS...
KRAAK
YOUR INFORMATION IS CORRECT--
--SOMEONE HERE DOES KNOW.
FALCON!

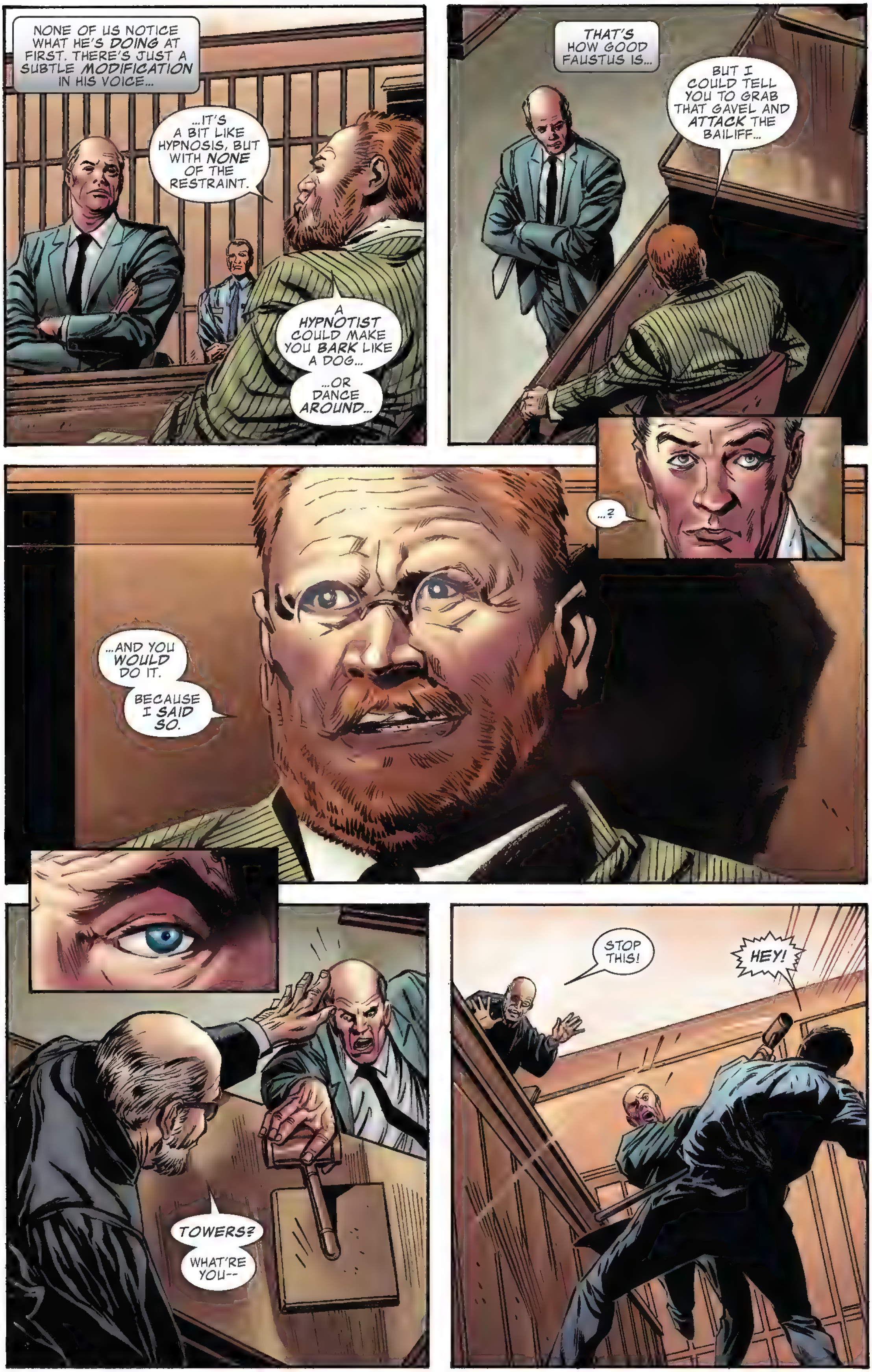

GRAB THE FALCON...
OF COURSE, MASTER MAN.
...AND BE CAREFUL THERE ARE NO HAWKS WAITING OUTSIDE TO CLAW YOUR EYES OUT.
DONE ALREADY? THAT WAS EFFICIENT.
YES. NOT GIVING FAIR WARNING IS SOMETIMES HELPFUL.
THEY HAD NO IDEA WHAT HIT THEM...
M
...OR WHAT'S GOING TO HIT THEM NEXT.

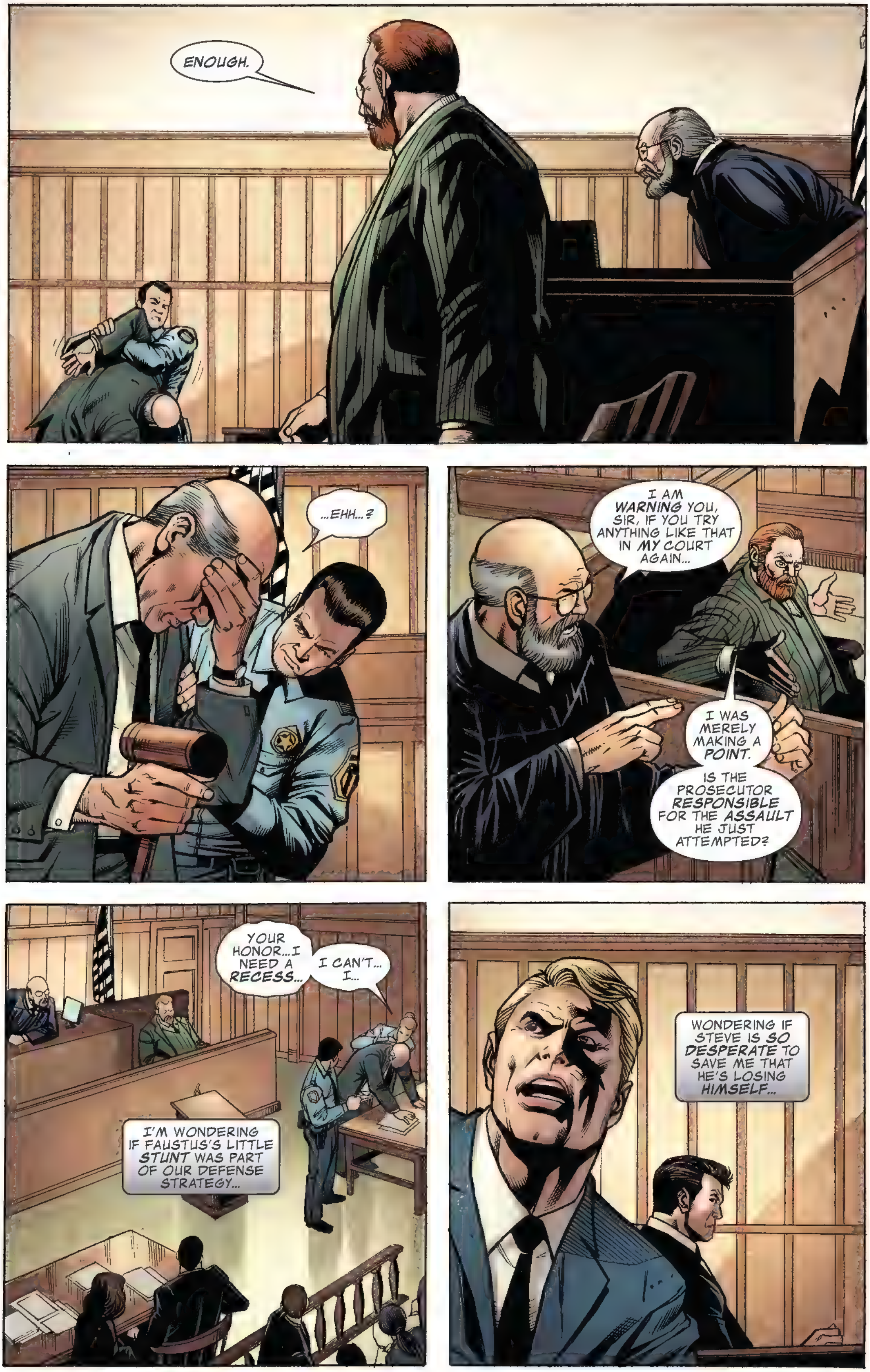

Trial: Day Three
MUCH OF THE EVIDENCE THE PROSECUTION PRESENTS HAS BEEN STIPULATED TO.
SINCE OUR DEFENSE STRATEGY IS NOT THAT I *DIDN'T DO IT,* BUT THAT I WASN'T *IN CONTROL* OF MY ACTIONS.
WHICH DOESN'T STOP ME FEELING LIKE HELL WHEN TOWERS PUTS UP PHOTOS OF THE DESTRUCTION IN PHILADELPHIA.
BUT MOST OF THEIR CASE IS WITNESS TESTIMONY...
AND YOU FIRST ENCOUNTERED THE *WINTER SOLDIER* WHILE YOU WERE PART OF THE *KGB?*
DA-- I MEAN, *YES.*
HE WAS ONE OF *TRAINERS* IN RED ROOM PROGRAM...
VERY EFFECTIVE OPERATIVE, THIS MAN WAS.
BERNIE IS *MORE* THAN PREPARED, THOUGH.
MR. LUDOVICH, WERE YOU AWARE OF ANY *MIND CONTROL* EXPERIMENTS IN THIS "RED ROOM PROGRAM"?
UMMM...

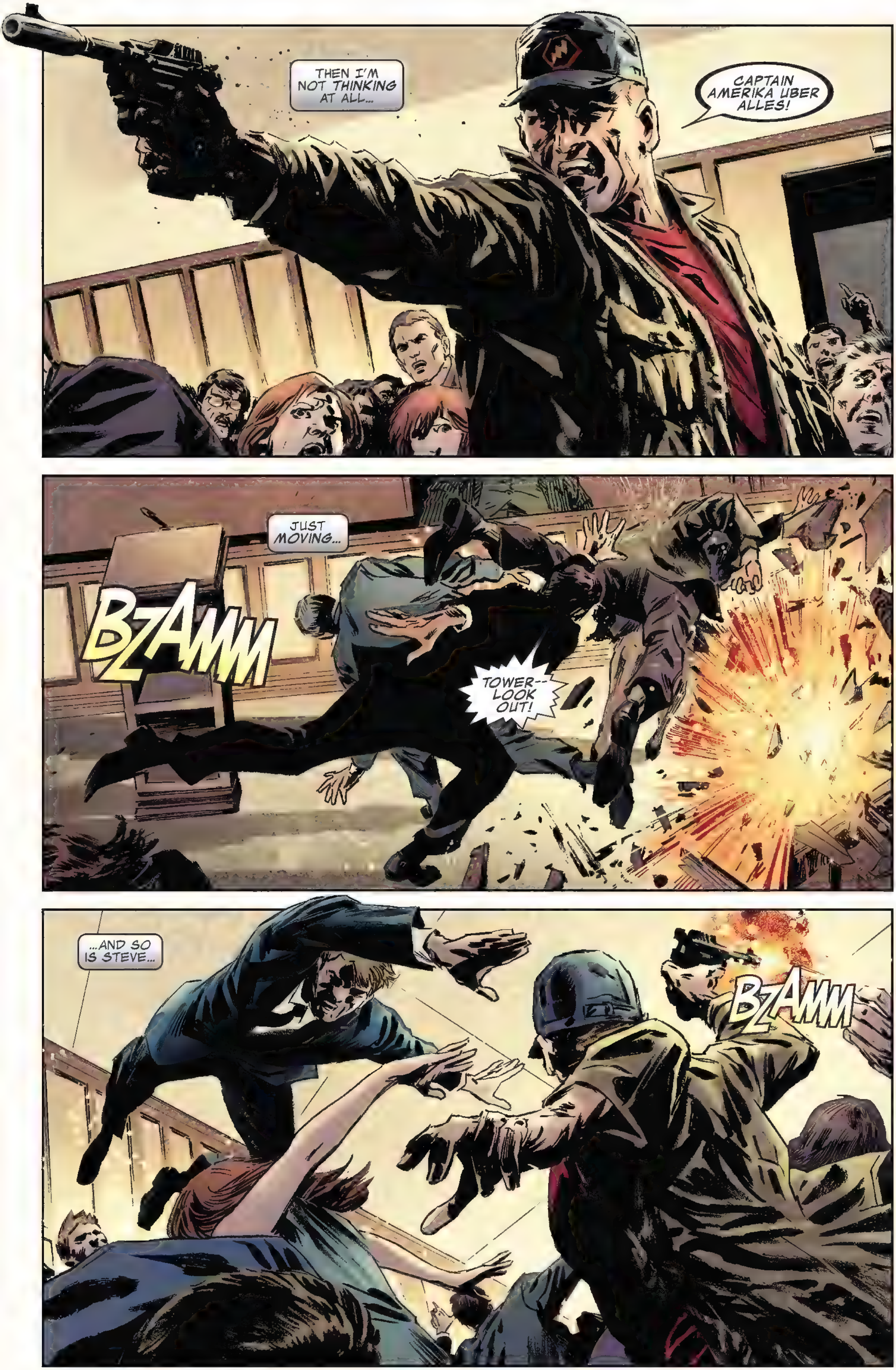

WHEN ONE OF LUKIN'S EX-KRONAS SOLDIERS TESTIFIES...
THAT MAN, BUCKY BARNES, SET THE BOMB AND SWITCHED THE DETONATOR...
...SHE REMINDS THE COURT OF THE WITNESS'S HISTORY...
LET ME JUST SEE IF I'VE GOT THIS STRAIGHT...
YOU WERE PART OF A PLOT TO BRING DOWN THE ENTIRE U.S. ECONOMY AND ASSASSINATE OUR NEXT PRESIDENT?
IT GOES SMOOTHLY AND QUICKLY...
IS THERE A PROBLEM, COUNSELOR?
I THINK THERE MIGHT BE, YOUR HONOR.
...UNTIL NATASHA FAILS TO APPEAR, IGNORING A SUBPOENA.
PROSECUTION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CALL MS. ROMANOFF AT ANOTHER TIME, ASSUMING SHE CAN BE FOUND.
THEIR FINAL WITNESS IS A DOOZY--NORMAN OSBORN, TESTIFYING VIA SATELLITE.
--MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT NICK FURY AND TONY STARK DESTROYED ALL S.H.I.E.L.D. RECORDS OF BARNES'S HISTORY...
...AT THE WISHES OF STEVE ROGERS.
BUT IF BERNIE'S WORRIED ABOUT HIM, SHE DOESN'T LET ON...
I'D LIKE TO ASK HOW MANY TIMES YOU'VE BEEN INSTITUTIONALIZED FOR DELUSIONS, MR. OSBORN?
HOW DARE YOU...

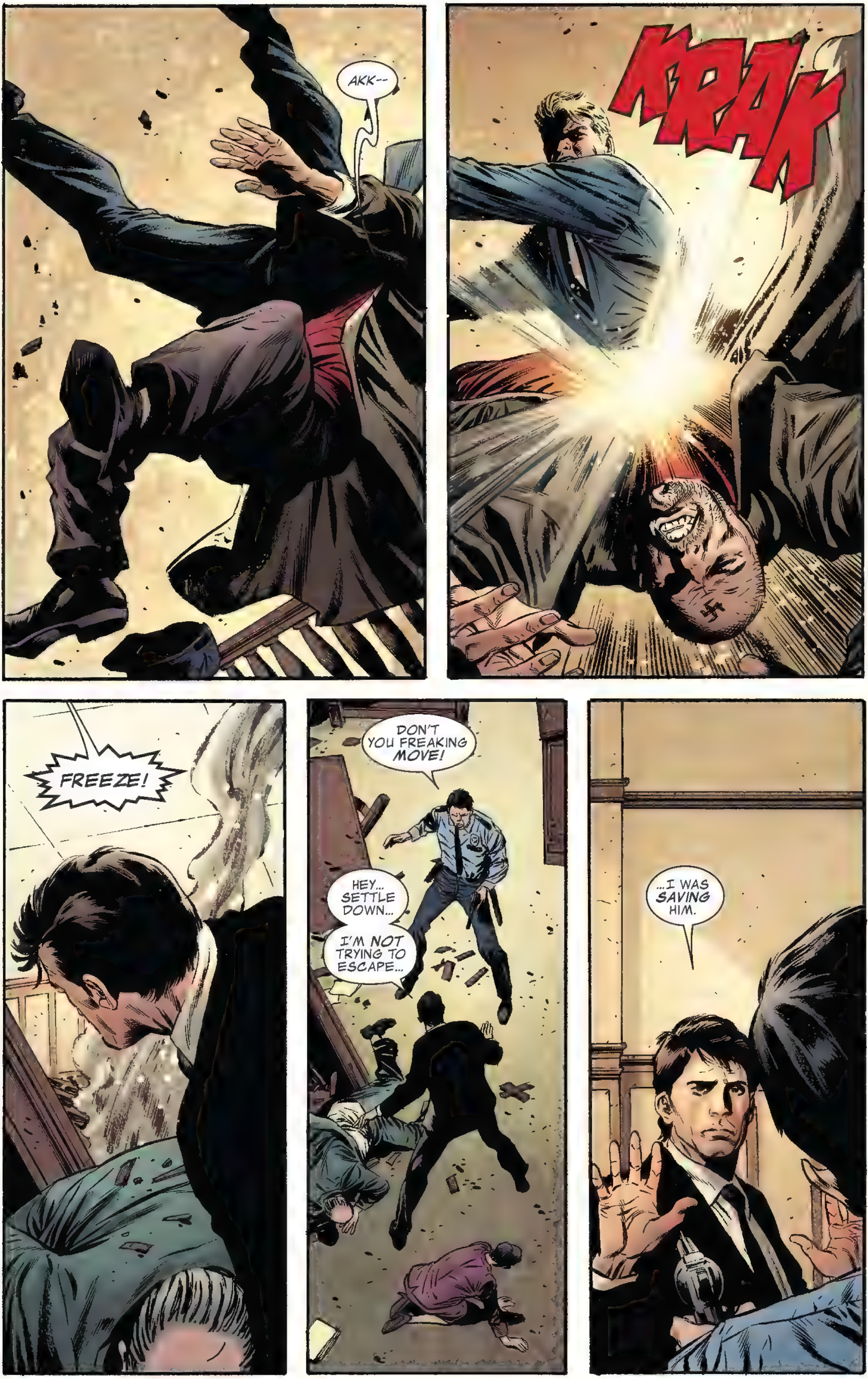

AFTER THE LUNCH BREAK, IT'S TIME FOR MY DEFENSE, WHICH IS ALSO RELYING ON WITNESS TESTIMONY...
--DEFENSE WOULD LIKE TO CALL JOHANN FENNHOFF...
...ALSO KNOWN AS DR. FAUSTUS.
OBJECTION!
DEFENSE HAS JUST CALLED A FUGITIVE.
THAT MAN IS WANTED ON MULTIPLE COUNTS OF--
HE'S BEEN IN A HOLDING CELL DOWNTOWN FOR THREE DAYS.
YOU WEREN'T LOOKING FOR HIM THAT HARD, TOWER.
I'LL ALLOW THE WITNESS. CONTINUE, MS. ROSENTHAL...
THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR...
FAUSTUS CORROBORATES MY DEFENSE, AS ONLY HE COULD...
...ALTHOUGH PRIMITIVE, THE IMMERSION TECHNIQUES THE RUSSIANS USED ON BARNES WERE EFFECTIVE AT BUILDING A PLIABLE PERSONALITY WITHIN HIM.

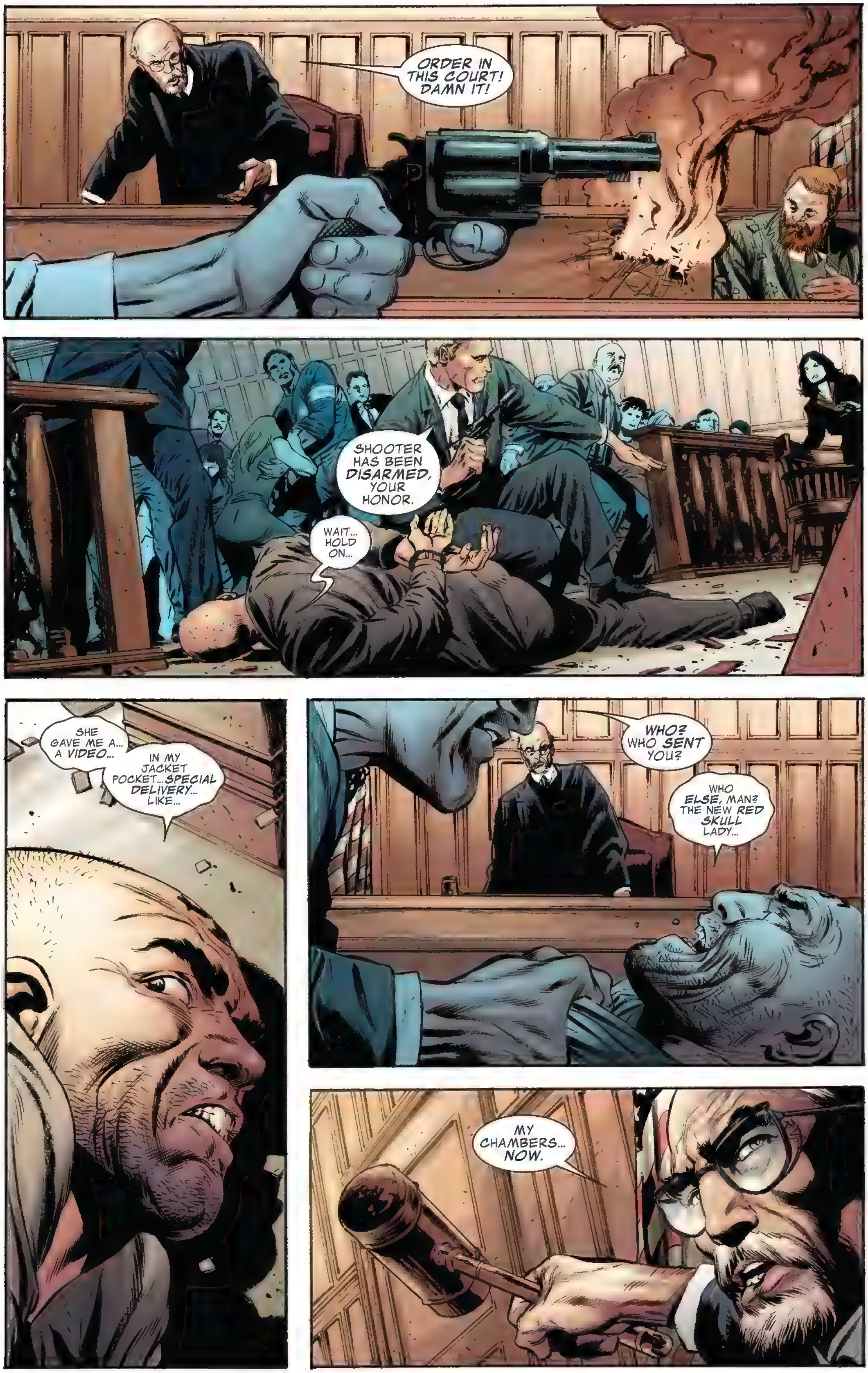

EVEN IN HIS SMUG, SUPERIOR VOICE, IT'S HARD TO HEAR...
ALL HIS MIND RETAINED WAS THE SENSE-MEMORIES OF HIS TRAINING...
...THE SOVIETS HAD TOTAL CONTROL OF HIM...
HARD TO ACCEPT WHAT WAS *DONE* TO ME...
AND WHAT I *DID* AFTERWARDS...
...THEY MADE HIM NOTHING BUT A WEAPON.
BUT STILL, HE'S A *CREDIBLE* SOURCE...
SO, IN YOUR OPINION, BUCKY BARNES IS *NOT RESPONSIBLE* FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE *WINTER SOLDIER?*
NO...THAT CREDIT GOES TO HIS *PROGRAMMERS.*
AND TOWER'S *CROSS-EXAMINATION* OF HIM GOES ESPECIALLY BADLY...
YOU'RE TELLING US THERE'S *NO DEAL* BEING CUT BY STEVE ROGERS IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR *TESTIMONY* HERE?
BELIEVE ME, I WAS AS *INCENSED* AS *YOU* ARE.

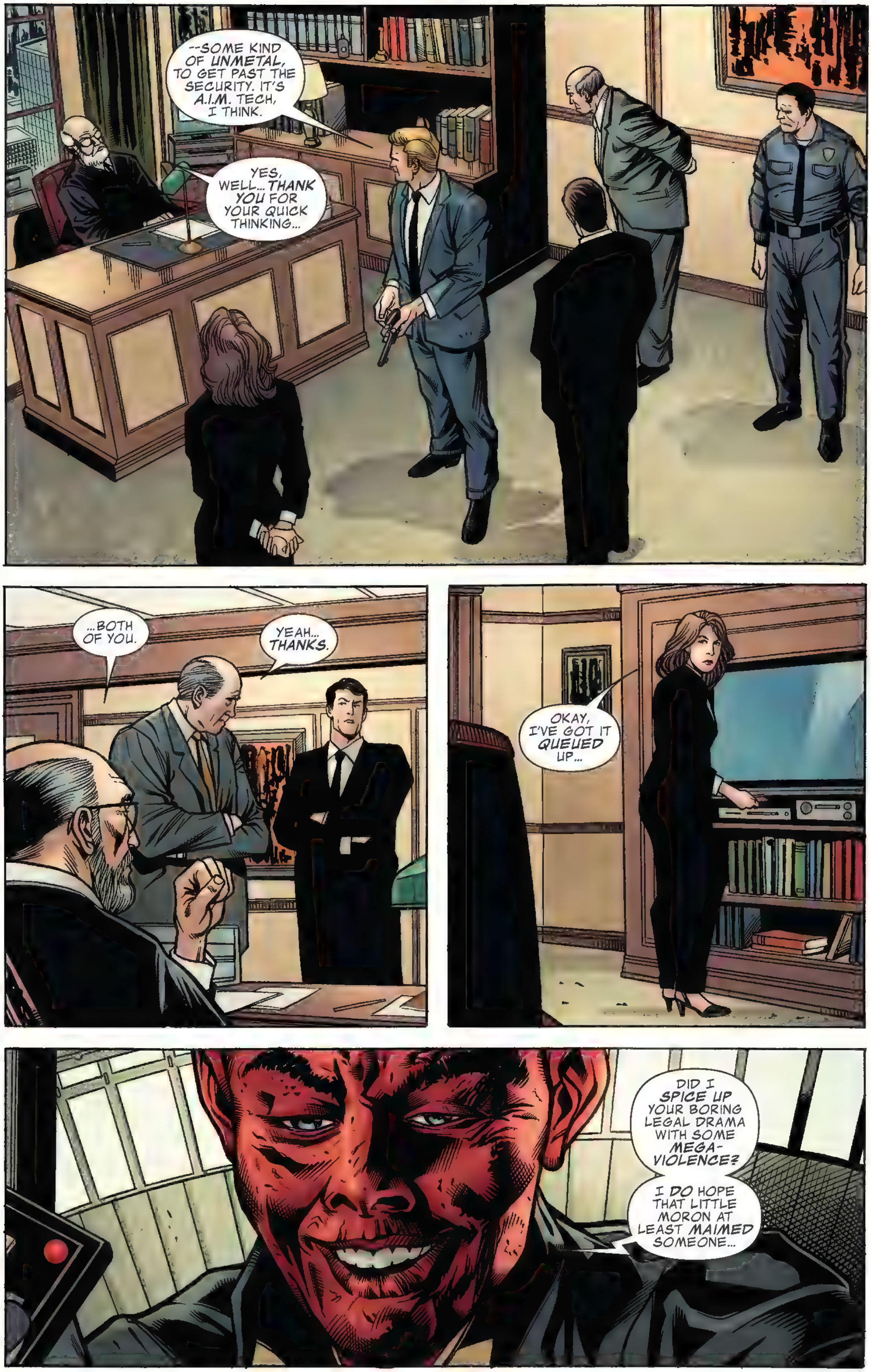

NONE OF US NOTICE WHAT HE'S *DOING* AT FIRST. THERE'S JUST A SUBTLE *MODIFICATION* IN HIS VOICE...
...IT'S A BIT LIKE HYPNOSIS, BUT WITH *NONE* OF THE RESTRAINT.
A *HYPNOTIST* COULD MAKE YOU *BARK* LIKE A DOG...
...OR DANCE *AROUND*...
THAT'S HOW GOOD FAUSTUS IS...
BUT I COULD TELL YOU TO GRAB THAT GAVEL AND *ATTACK* THE BAILIFF...
...?
...AND YOU *WOULD* DO IT.
BECAUSE I *SAID* *SO.*
TOWERS?
WHAT'RE YOU--
STOP THIS!
HEY!

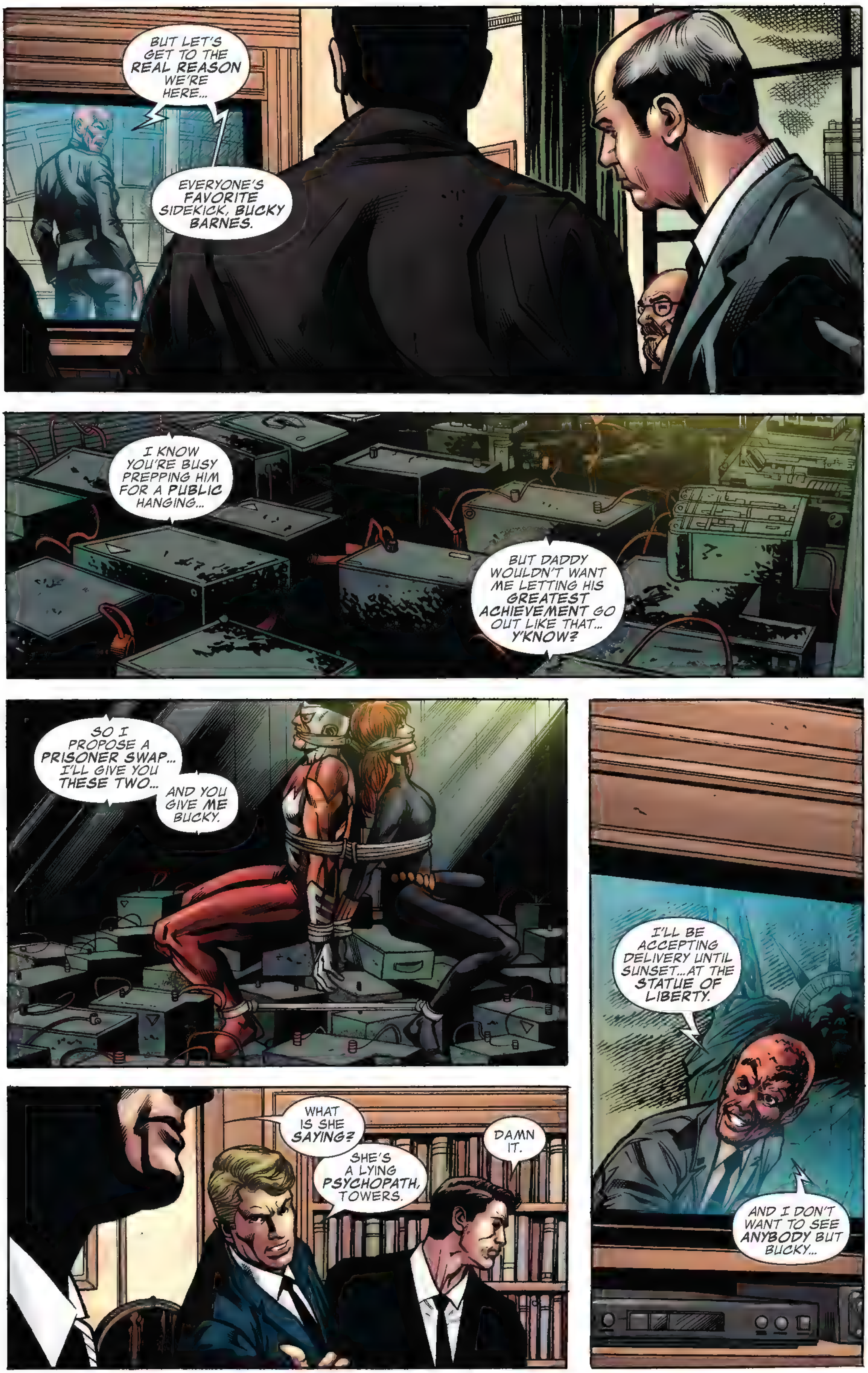

ENOUGH.
...EHH...?
I AM WARNING YOU, SIR, IF YOU TRY ANYTHING LIKE THAT IN MY COURT AGAIN...
I WAS MERELY MAKING A POINT.
IS THE PROSECUTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ASSAULT HE JUST ATTEMPTED?
YOUR HONOR...I NEED A RECESS...
I CAN'T... I...
I'M WONDERING IF FAUSTUS'S LITTLE STUNT WAS PART OF OUR DEFENSE STRATEGY...
WONDERING IF STEVE IS SO DESPERATE TO SAVE ME THAT HE'S LOSING HIMSELF...

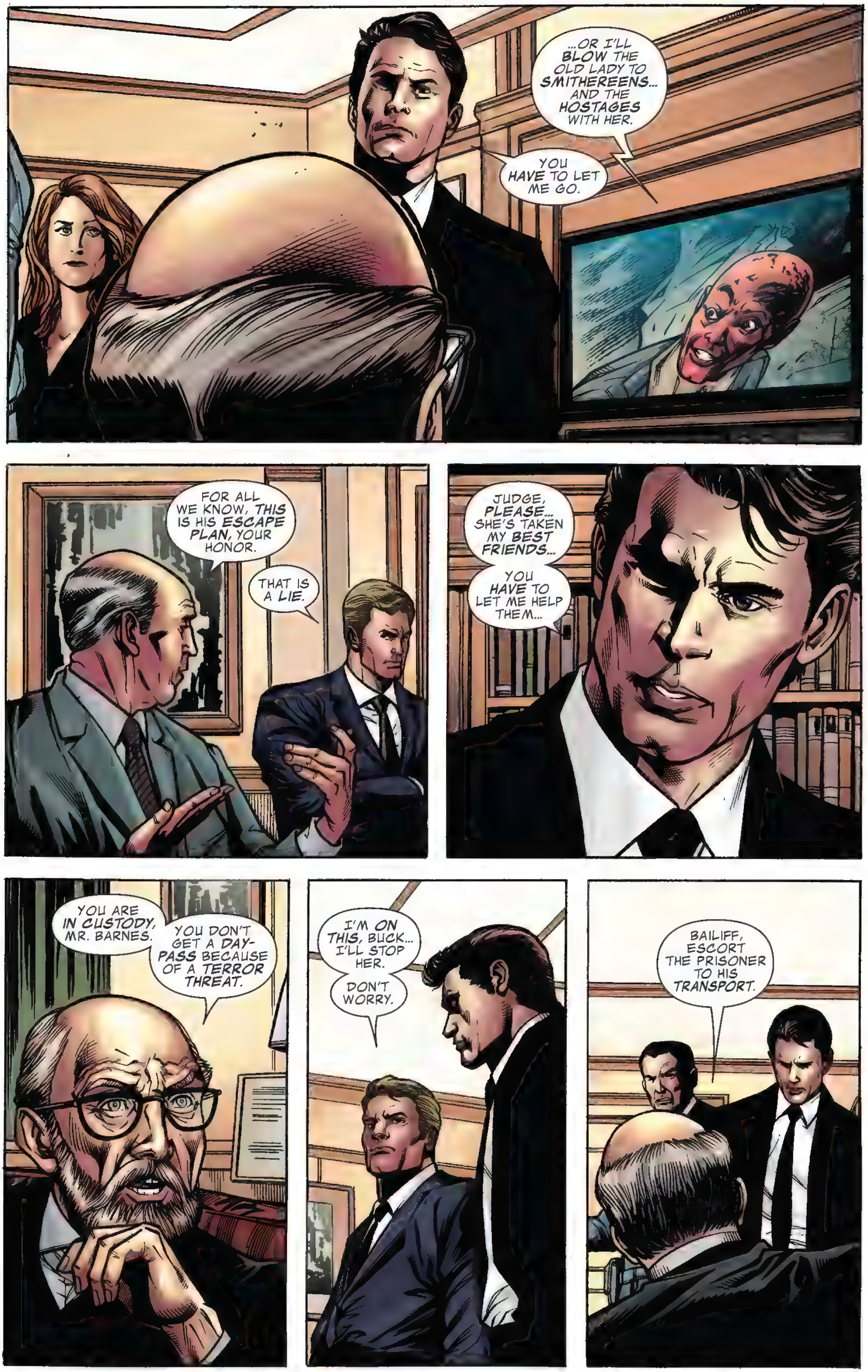

THEN I'M NOT THINKING AT ALL...
CAPTAIN AMERIKA UBER ALLES!
JUST MOVING...
BZAMM
TOWER-- LOOK OUT!
...AND SO IS STEVE...
BZAMM

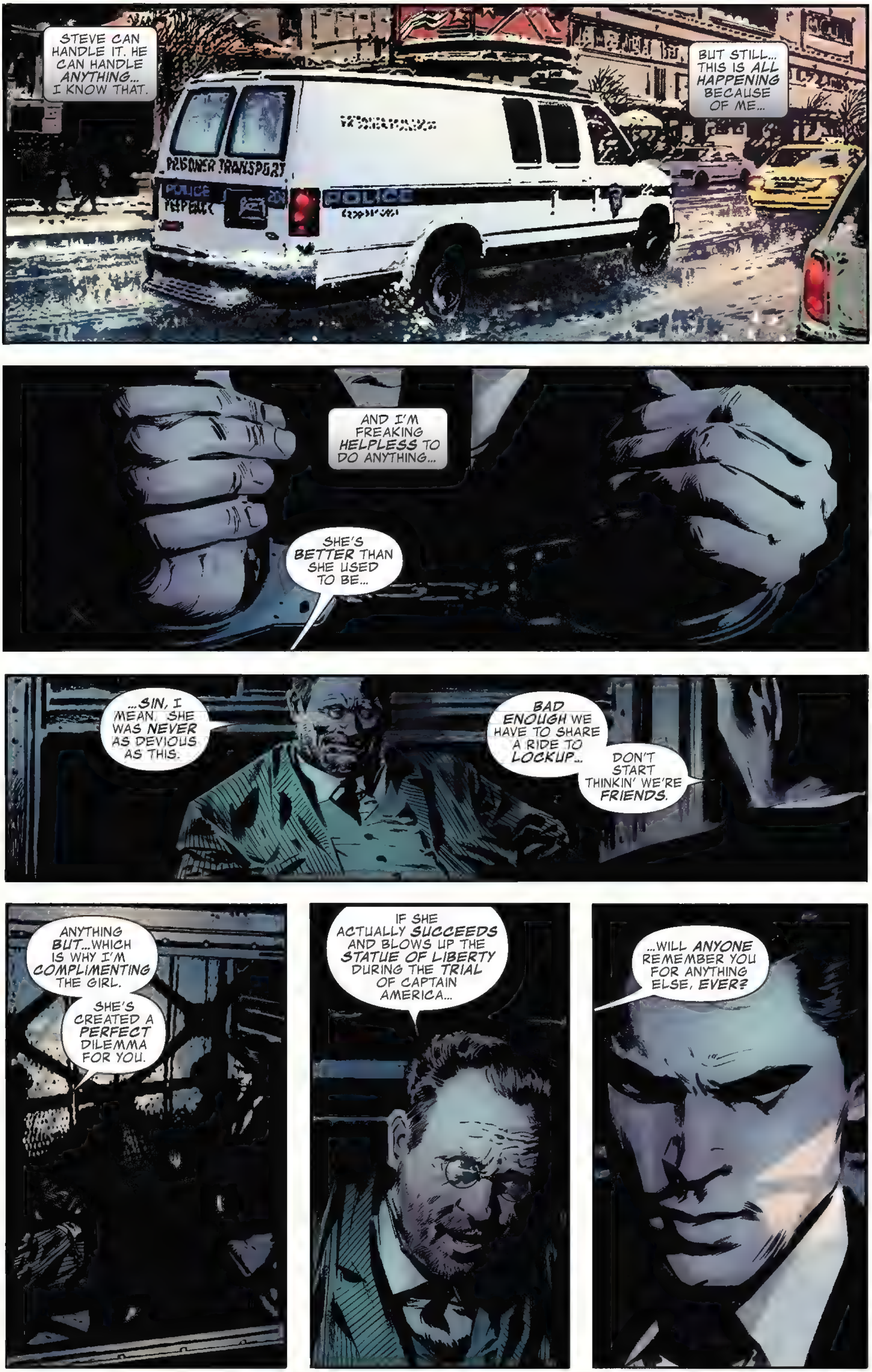

AKK--
KRAK
FREEZE!
DON'T YOU FREAKING *MOVE!*
HEY... SETTLE DOWN...
I'M *NOT* TRYING TO ESCAPE...
...I WAS *SAVING* HIM.

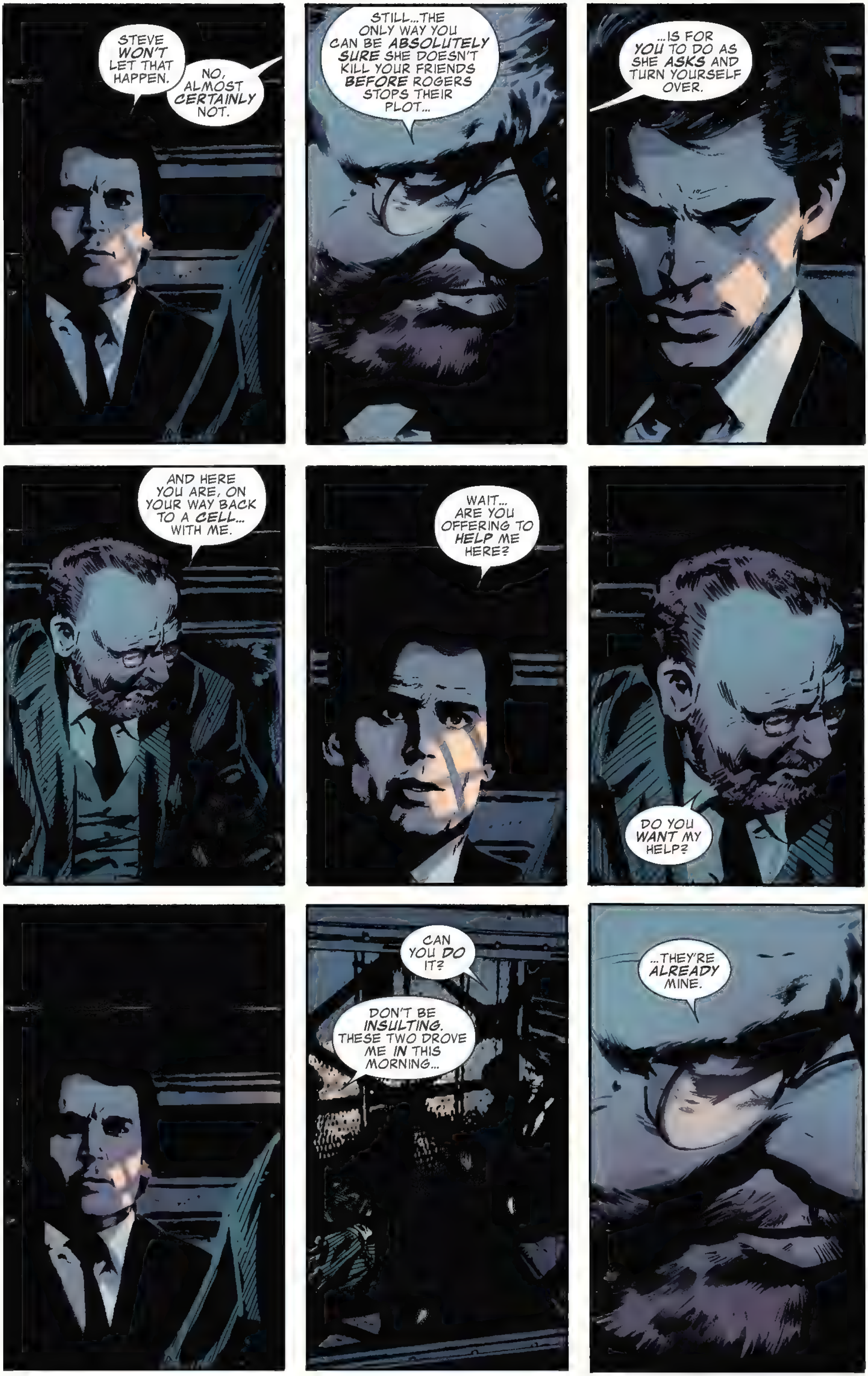

ORDER IN THIS COURT! DAMN IT!
SHOOTER HAS BEEN DISARMED, YOUR HONOR.
WAIT... HOLD ON...
SHE GAVE ME A... A VIDEO...
IN MY JACKET POCKET...SPECIAL DELIVERY... LIKE...
WHO? WHO SENT YOU?
WHO ELSE, MAN? THE NEW RED SKULL LADY...
MY CHAMBERS... NOW.

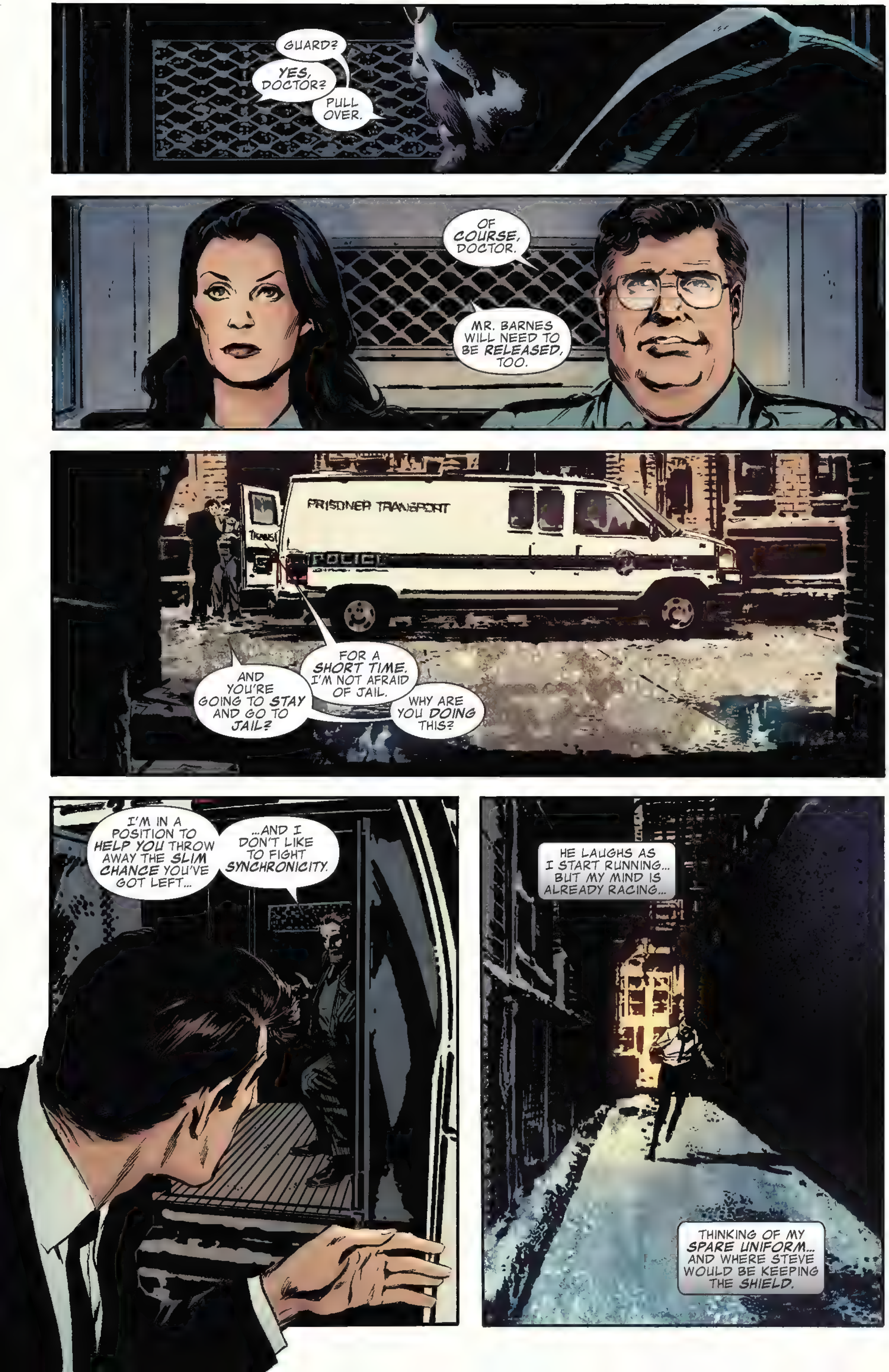

--SOME KIND OF UNMETAL, TO GET PAST THE SECURITY. IT'S A.I.M. TECH, I THINK.
YES, WELL... THANK YOU FOR YOUR QUICK THINKING...
...BOTH OF YOU.
YEAH... THANKS.
OKAY, I'VE GOT IT QUEUED UP...
DID I SPICE UP YOUR BORING LEGAL DRAMA WITH SOME MEGA-VIOLENCE?
I DO HOPE THAT LITTLE MORON AT LEAST MAIMED SOMEONE...

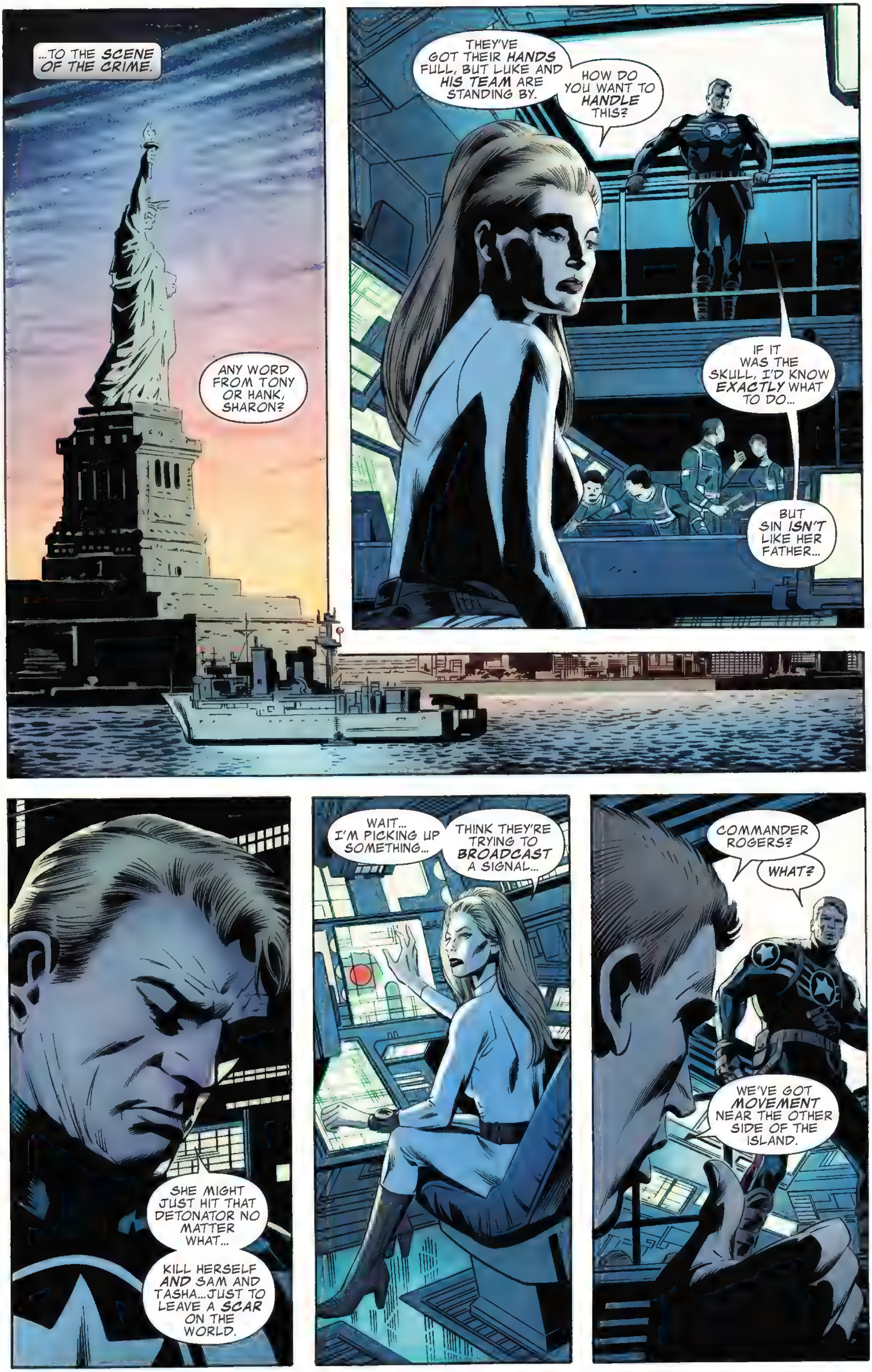

BUT LET'S GET TO THE REAL REASON WE'RE HERE...
EVERYONE'S FAVORITE SIDEKICK, BUCKY BARNES.
I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY PREPPING HIM FOR A PUBLIC HANGING...
BUT DADDY WOULDN'T WANT ME LETTING HIS GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT GO OUT LIKE THAT... Y'KNOW?
SO I PROPOSE A PRISONER SWAP... I'LL GIVE YOU THESE TWO...
AND YOU GIVE ME BUCKY.
I'LL BE ACCEPTING DELIVERY UNTIL SUNSET... AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY.
AND I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYBODY BUT BUCKY...
WHAT IS SHE SAYING?
SHE'S A LYING PSYCHOPATH, TOWERS.
DAMN IT.

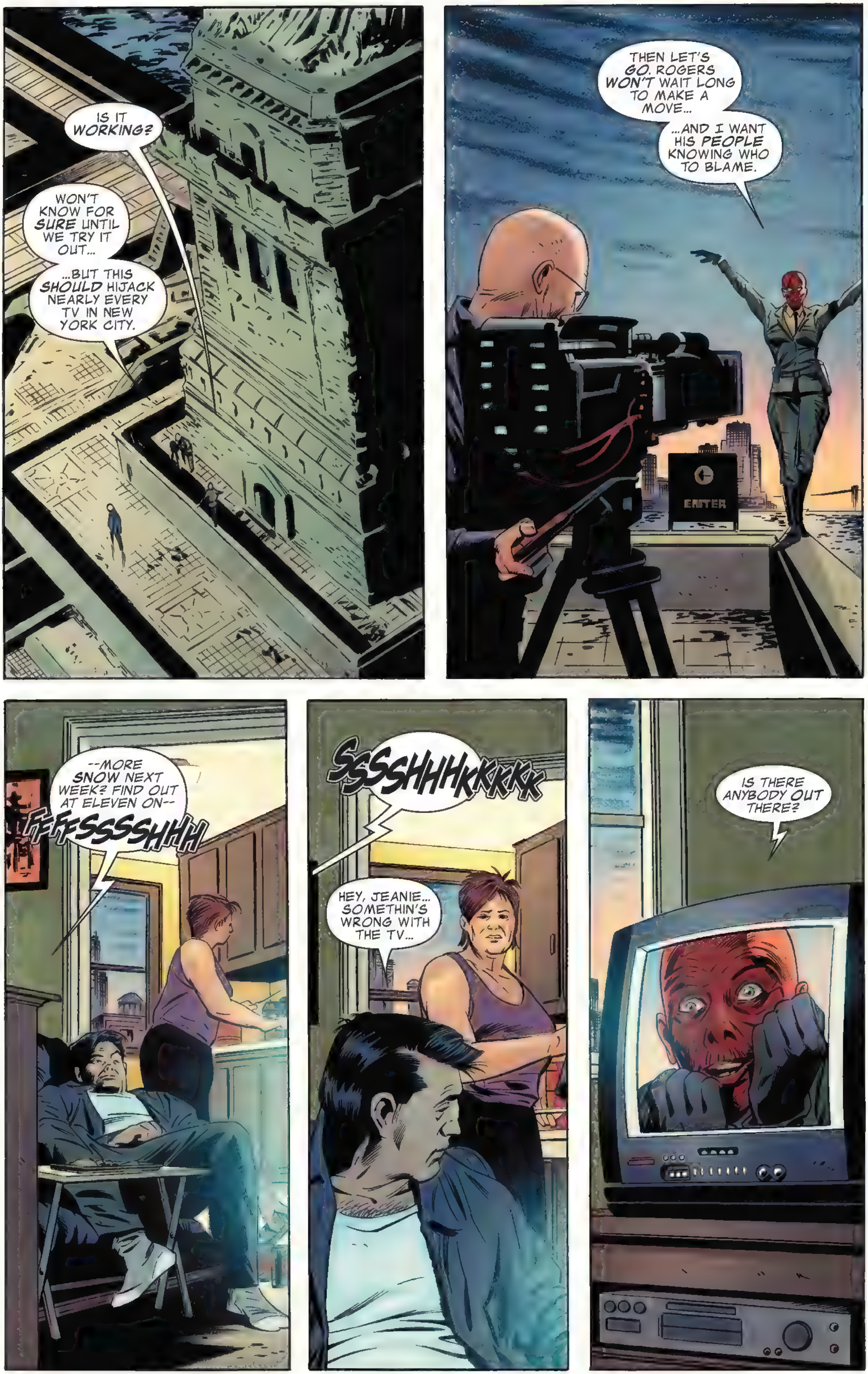

...OR I'LL BLOW THE OLD LADY TO SMITHEREENS... AND THE HOSTAGES WITH HER.
YOU HAVE TO LET ME GO.
FOR ALL WE KNOW, THIS IS HIS ESCAPE PLAN, YOUR HONOR.
THAT IS A LIE.
JUDGE, PLEASE... SHE'S TAKEN MY BEST FRIENDS...
YOU HAVE TO LET ME HELP THEM...
YOU ARE IN CUSTODY, MR. BARNES.
YOU DON'T GET A DAY-PASS BECAUSE OF A TERROR THREAT.
I'M ON THIS, BUCK... I'LL STOP HER.
DON'T WORRY.
BAILIFF, ESCORT THE PRISONER TO HIS TRANSPORT.

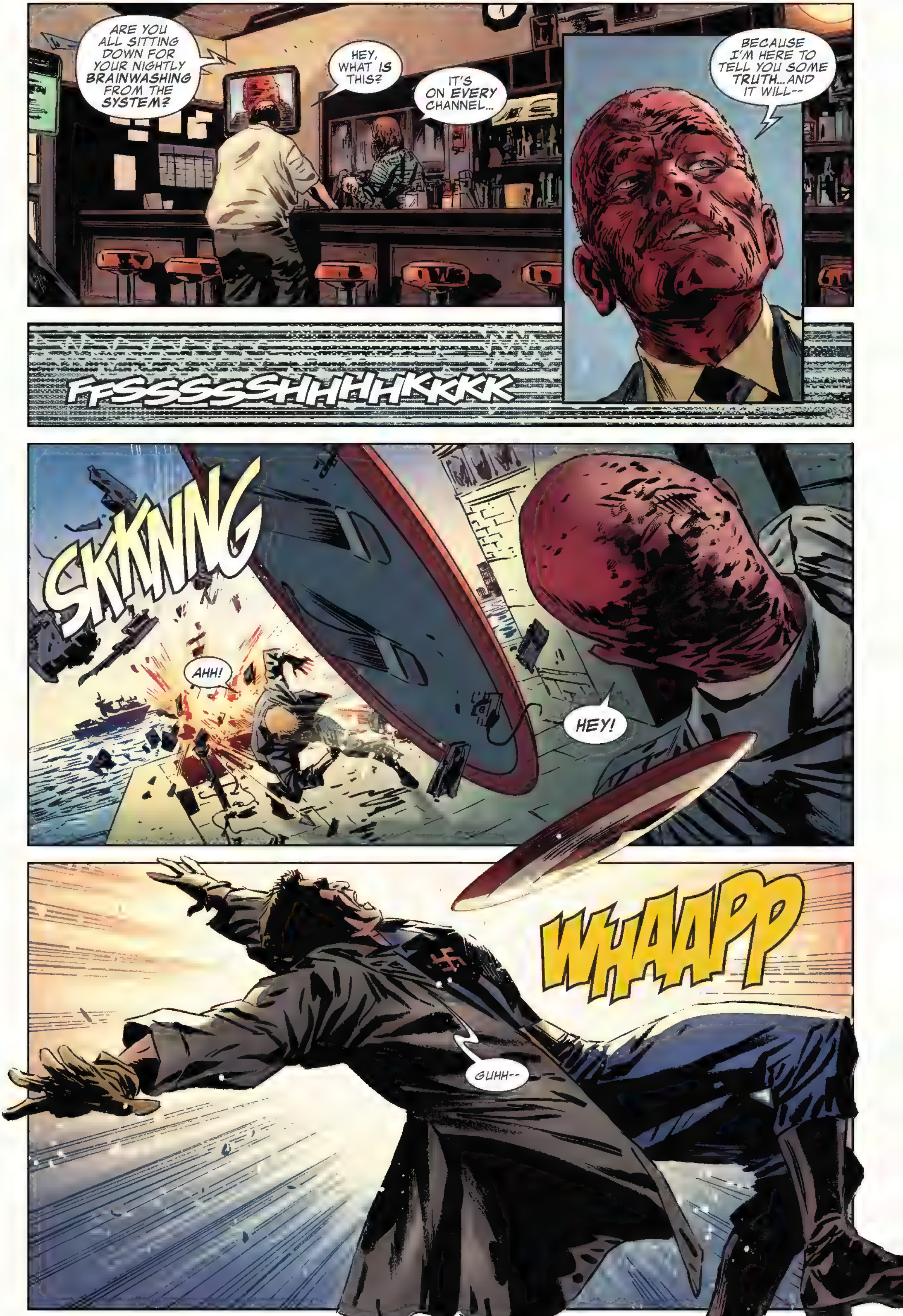

STEVE CAN HANDLE IT. HE CAN HANDLE *ANYTHING*... I KNOW THAT.
PRISONER TRANSPORT
POLICE
BUT STILL... THIS IS *ALL HAPPENING* BECAUSE OF ME...
AND I'M FREAKING *HELPLESS* TO DO ANYTHING...
SHE'S *BETTER* THAN SHE USED TO BE...
...*SIN*, I MEAN. SHE WAS *NEVER* AS DEVIOUS AS THIS.
BAD ENOUGH WE HAVE TO SHARE A RIDE TO *LOCKUP*...
DON'T START THINKIN' WE'RE *FRIENDS*.
ANYTHING *BUT*...WHICH IS WHY I'M *COMPLIMENTING* THE GIRL.
SHE'S CREATED A *PERFECT* DILEMMA FOR YOU.
IF SHE ACTUALLY *SUCCEEDS* AND BLOWS UP THE *STATUE OF LIBERTY* DURING THE *TRIAL* OF CAPTAIN AMERICA...
...WILL *ANYONE* REMEMBER YOU FOR ANYTHING ELSE, *EVER?*

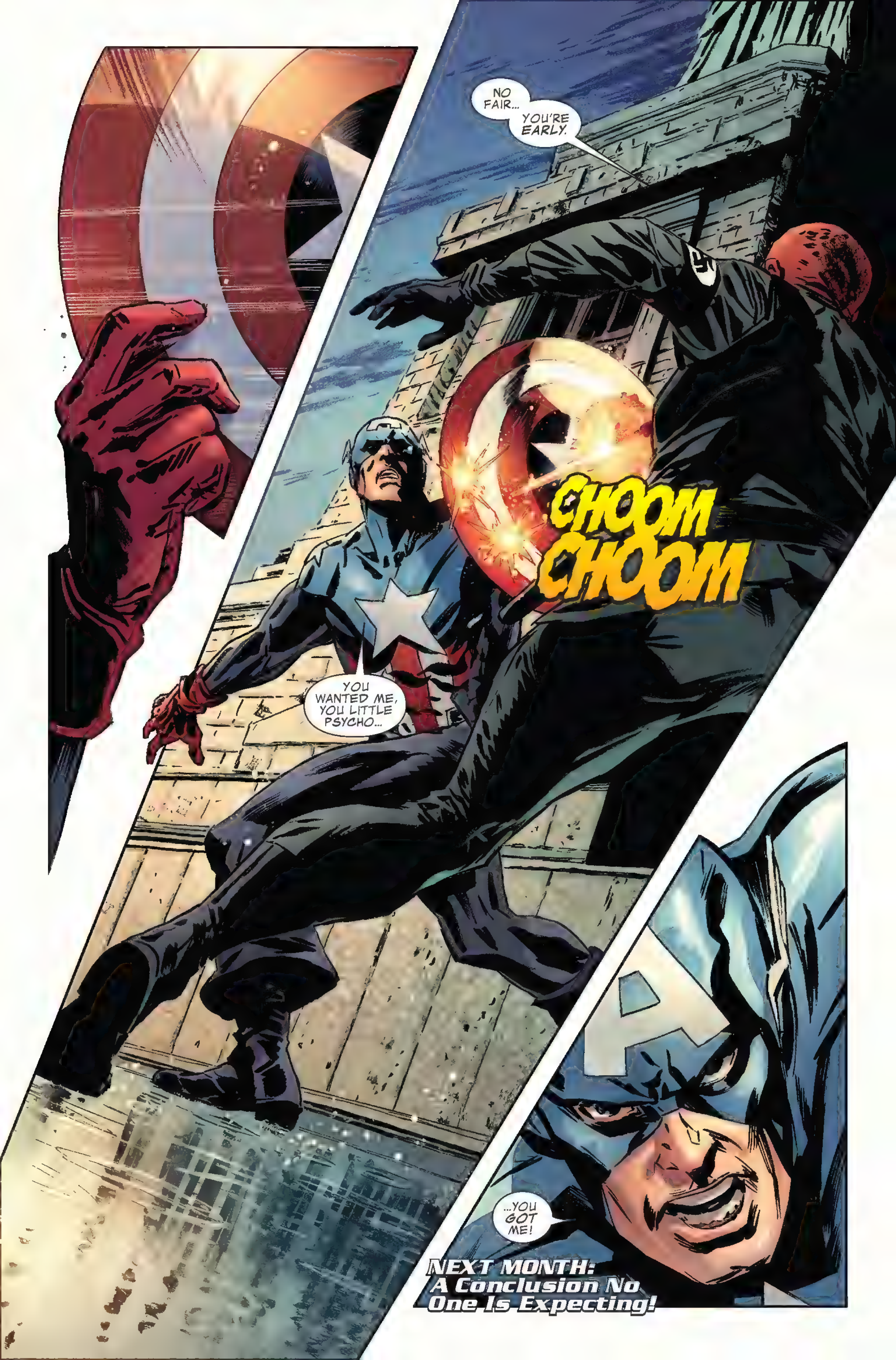

STEVE *WON'T* LET THAT HAPPEN.
NO, ALMOST *CERTAINLY* NOT.
STILL...THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN BE *ABSOLUTELY SURE* SHE DOESN'T KILL YOUR FRIENDS *BEFORE* ROGERS STOPS THEIR PLOT...
...IS FOR *YOU* TO DO AS SHE *ASKS* AND TURN YOURSELF OVER.
AND HERE YOU ARE, ON YOUR WAY BACK TO A *CELL*... WITH ME.
WAIT... ARE YOU OFFERING TO *HELP* ME HERE?
DO YOU *WANT* MY HELP?
CAN YOU *DO* IT?
DON'T BE *INSULTING.* THESE TWO DROVE ME *IN* THIS MORNING...
...THEY'RE *ALREADY* MINE.


GUARD?
YES, DOCTOR?
PULL OVER.
OF COURSE, DOCTOR.
MR. BARNES WILL NEED TO BE RELEASED, TOO.
PRISONER TRANSPORT
POLICE
AND YOU'RE GOING TO STAY AND GO TO JAIL?
FOR A SHORT TIME. I'M NOT AFRAID OF JAIL.
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
I'M IN A POSITION TO HELP YOU THROW AWAY THE SLIM CHANCE YOU'VE GOT LEFT...
...AND I DON'T LIKE TO FIGHT SYNCHRONICITY.
HE LAUGHS AS I START RUNNING... BUT MY MIND IS ALREADY RACING...
THINKING OF MY SPARE UNIFORM... AND WHERE STEVE WOULD BE KEEPING THE SHIELD.


...TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME.
ANY WORD FROM TONY OR HANK, SHARON?
THEY'VE GOT THEIR HANDS FULL, BUT LUKE AND HIS TEAM ARE STANDING BY.
HOW DO YOU WANT TO HANDLE THIS?
IF IT WAS THE SKULL, I'D KNOW EXACTLY WHAT TO DO...
BUT SIN ISN'T LIKE HER FATHER...
SHE MIGHT JUST HIT THAT DETONATOR NO MATTER WHAT...
KILL HERSELF AND SAM AND TASHA...JUST TO LEAVE A SCAR ON THE WORLD.
WAIT... I'M PICKING UP SOMETHING...
THINK THEY'RE TRYING TO BROADCAST A SIGNAL...
COMMANDER ROGERS?
WHAT?
WE'VE GOT MOVEMENT NEAR THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ISLAND.


IS IT WORKING?
WON'T KNOW FOR SURE UNTIL WE TRY IT OUT...
...BUT THIS SHOULD HIJACK NEARLY EVERY TV IN NEW YORK CITY.
THEN LET'S GO. ROGERS WON'T WAIT LONG TO MAKE A MOVE...
...AND I WANT HIS PEOPLE KNOWING WHO TO BLAME.
ENTER
--MORE SNOW NEXT WEEK? FIND OUT AT ELEVEN ON--
FFFFSSSSSHHH
SSSSHHHKKKKK
HEY, JEANIE... SOMETHIN'S WRONG WITH THE TV...
IS THERE ANYBODY OUT THERE?


ARE YOU ALL SITTING DOWN FOR YOUR NIGHTLY BRAINWASHING FROM THE SYSTEM?
HEY, WHAT IS THIS?
IT'S ON EVERY CHANNEL...
BECAUSE I'M HERE TO TELL YOU SOME TRUTH...AND IT WILL--
FFSSSSSSHHHHKKKK
SKKNNG
AHH!
HEY!
WHAAPP
GUHH--


NO FAIR... YOU'RE EARLY.
CHOOM CHOOM
YOU WANTED ME, YOU LITTLE PSYCHO...
...YOU GOT ME!
NEXT MONTH: A Conclusion No One Is Expecting!

615

BRUBAKER
GUICE
GAUDIANO
BREITWEISER

CAPTAIN AMERICA

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Is Begun
Takes Action

CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But Bucky has a dark and secret past as the Winter Soldier - an assassin trained, employed, and mentally manipulated by the KGB to stymie U.S. efforts in the Cold War. A past that Baron Zemo has exposed to the world. And with the media frenzy building, Steve Rogers can't stand to see his wartime partner's name stained any more: Hiring Bernie Rosenthal as Bucky's defense attorney, the decision is made to keep Bucky off the stand so the details of his time as the Winter Soldier are kept to a minimum.

As Bucky stews in prison, another of Cap's most vicious enemies, Master Man, resurfaces and liberates Sin, the daughter of the Red Skull, from a mental ward. Taking up her father's mantle, Sin's first act is to further damage Bucky's reputation by releasing months-old tapes of her own psychological interviews in which she paints Bucky as a willing pawn of her father.

Following a lead about a Neo-Nazi hangout, Falcon and the Black Widow are ambushed by Master Man and taken captive. Meanwhile, at the courthouse, Bucky's trial is interrupted by an armed thug who delivers an ultimatum from Sin: either Bucky hands himself over to her, or she blows up the Statue of Liberty - along with her hostages Falcon and the Black Widow. Escaping his incarceration against the judge's direct order, Bucky rushes off toward Lady Liberty...

THE TRIAL OF CAPTAIN AMERICA part 5

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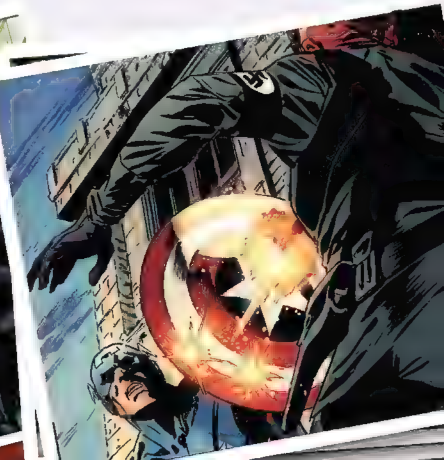
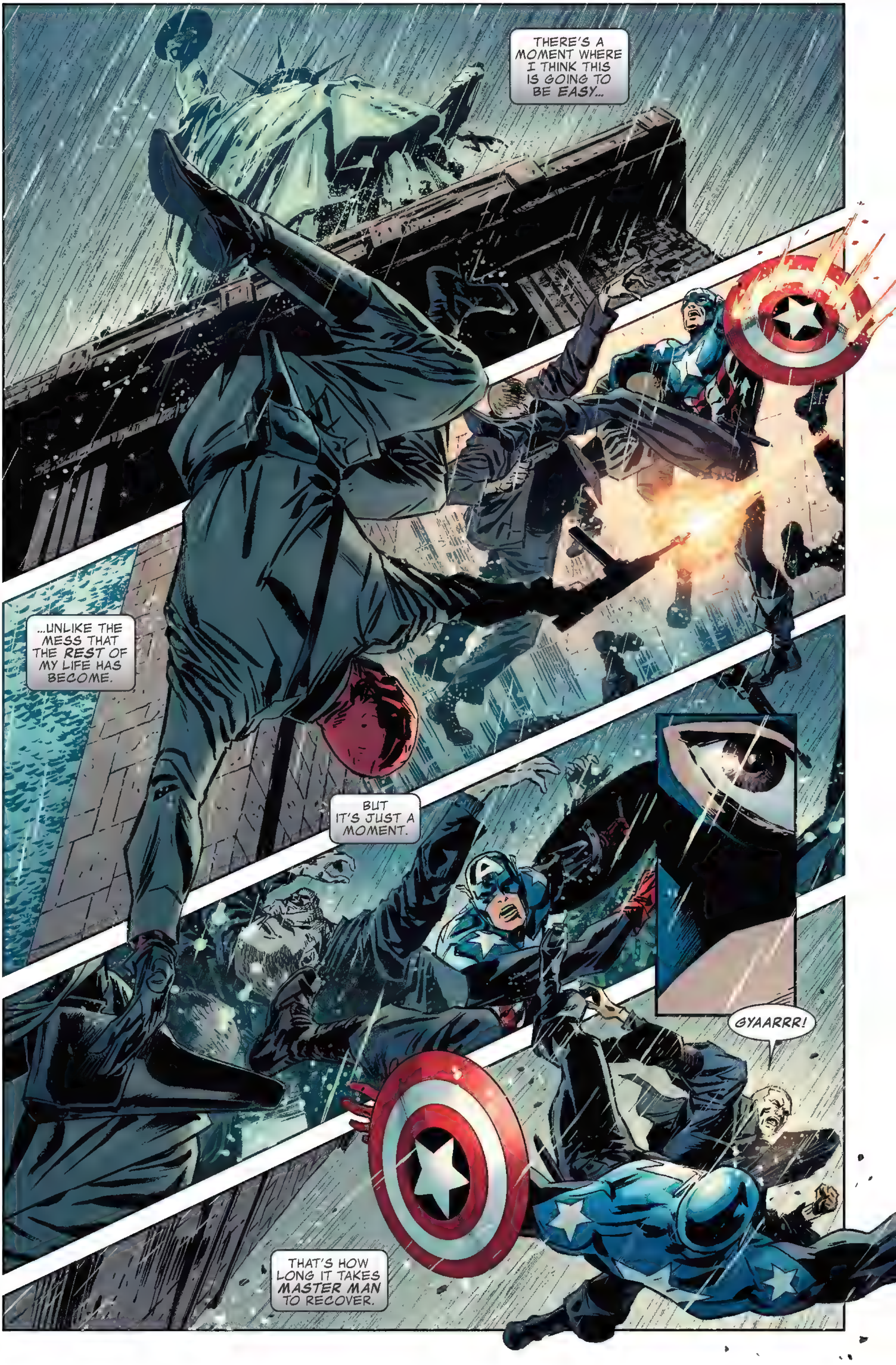
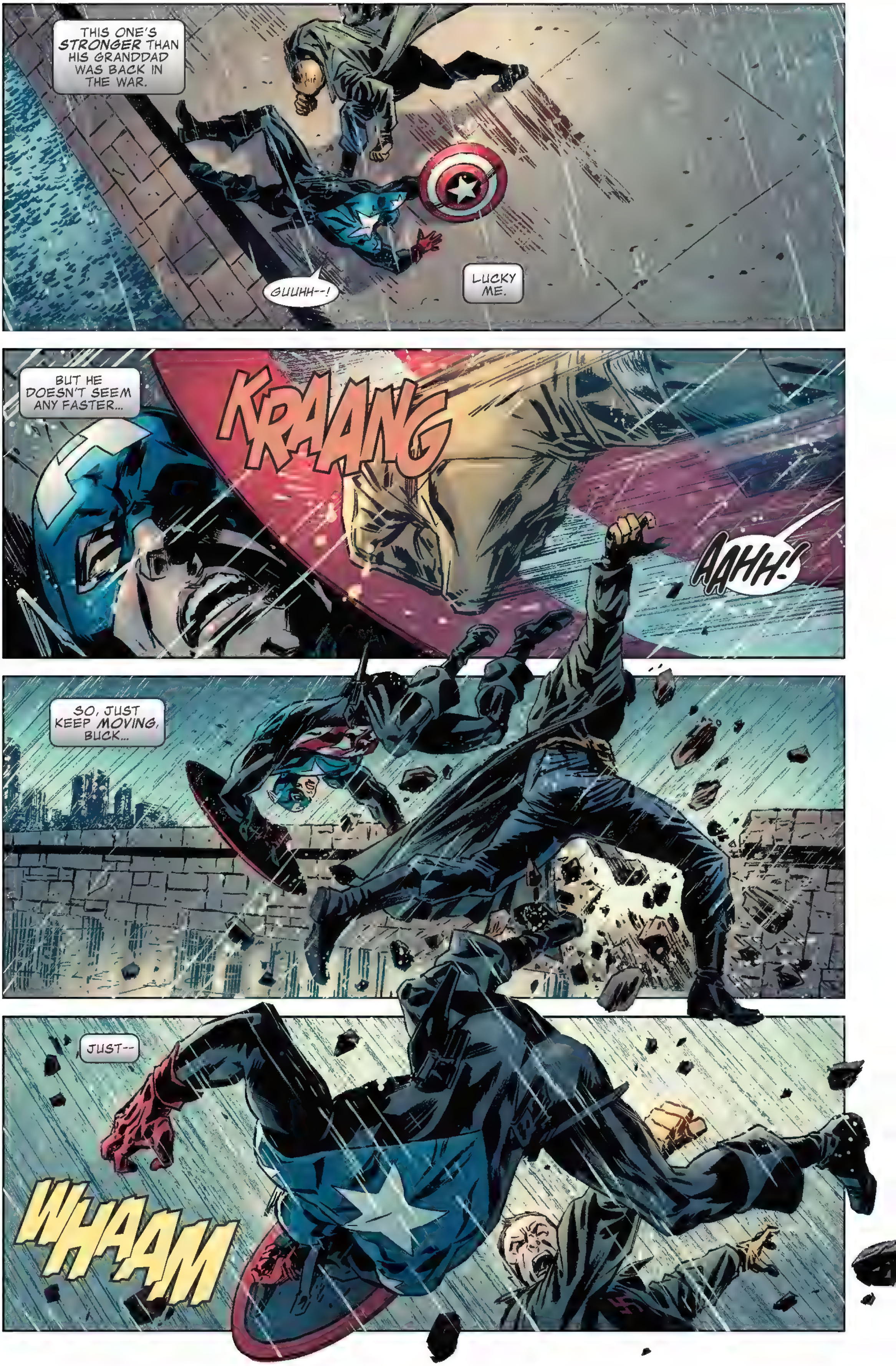
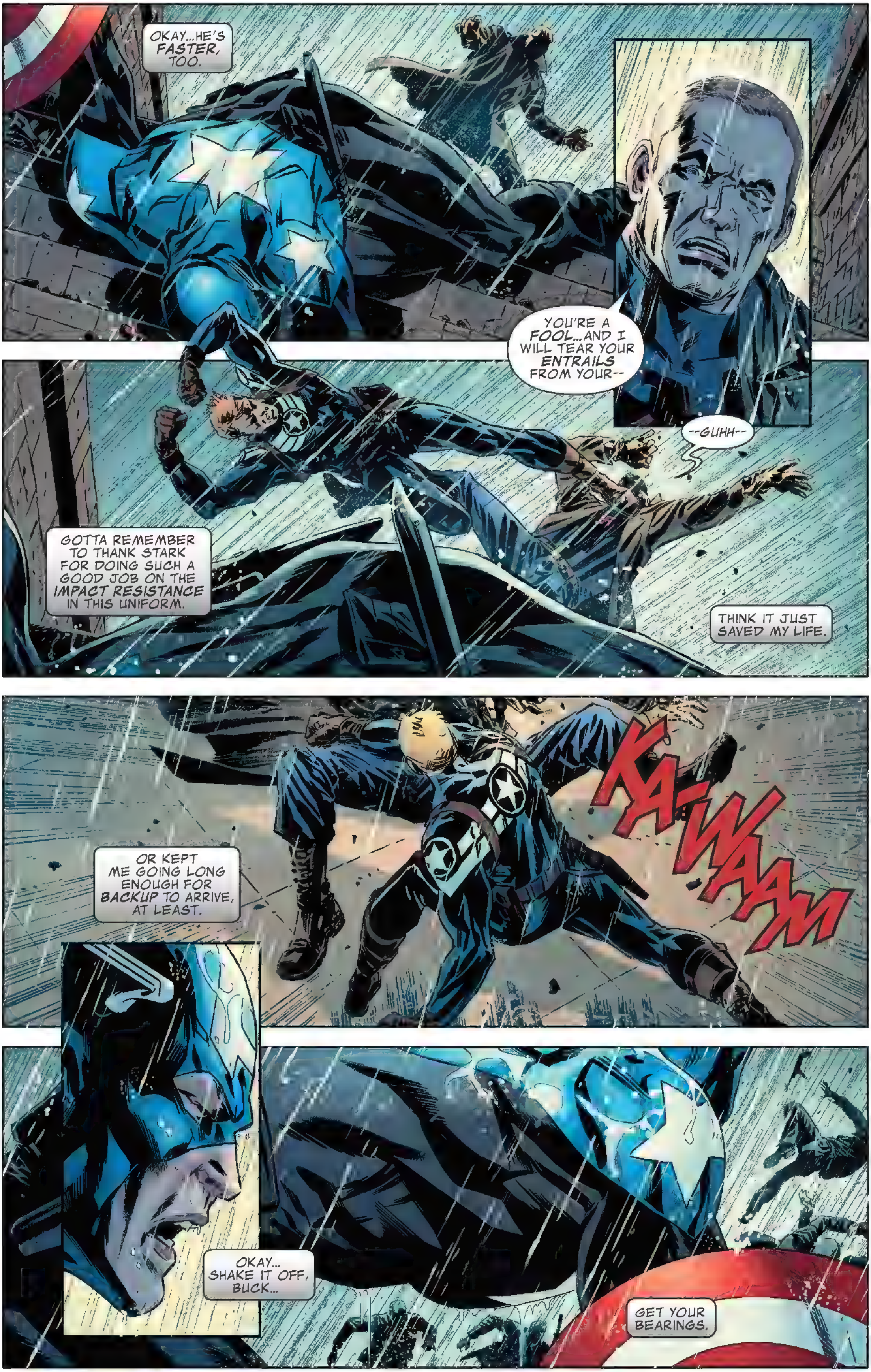
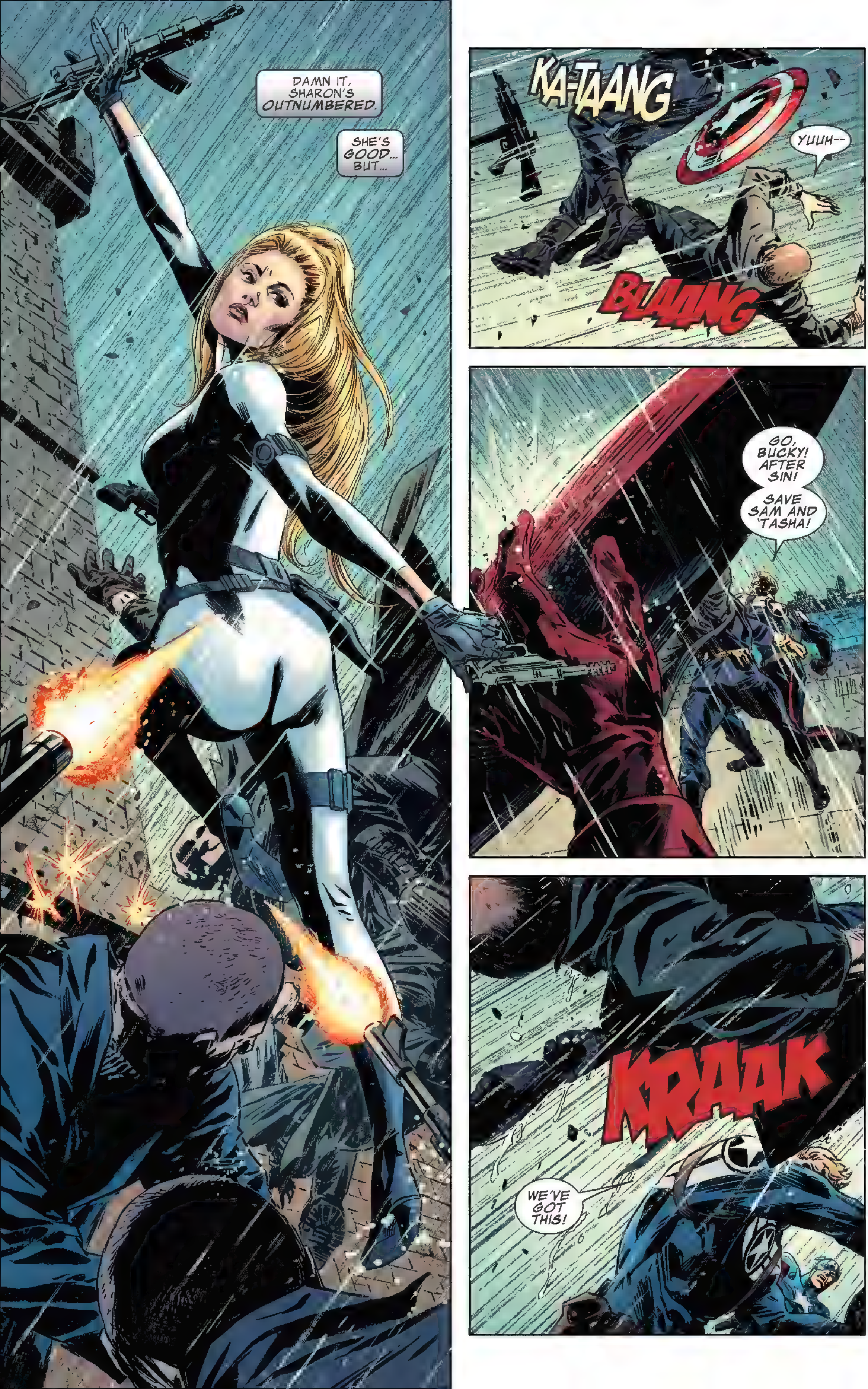
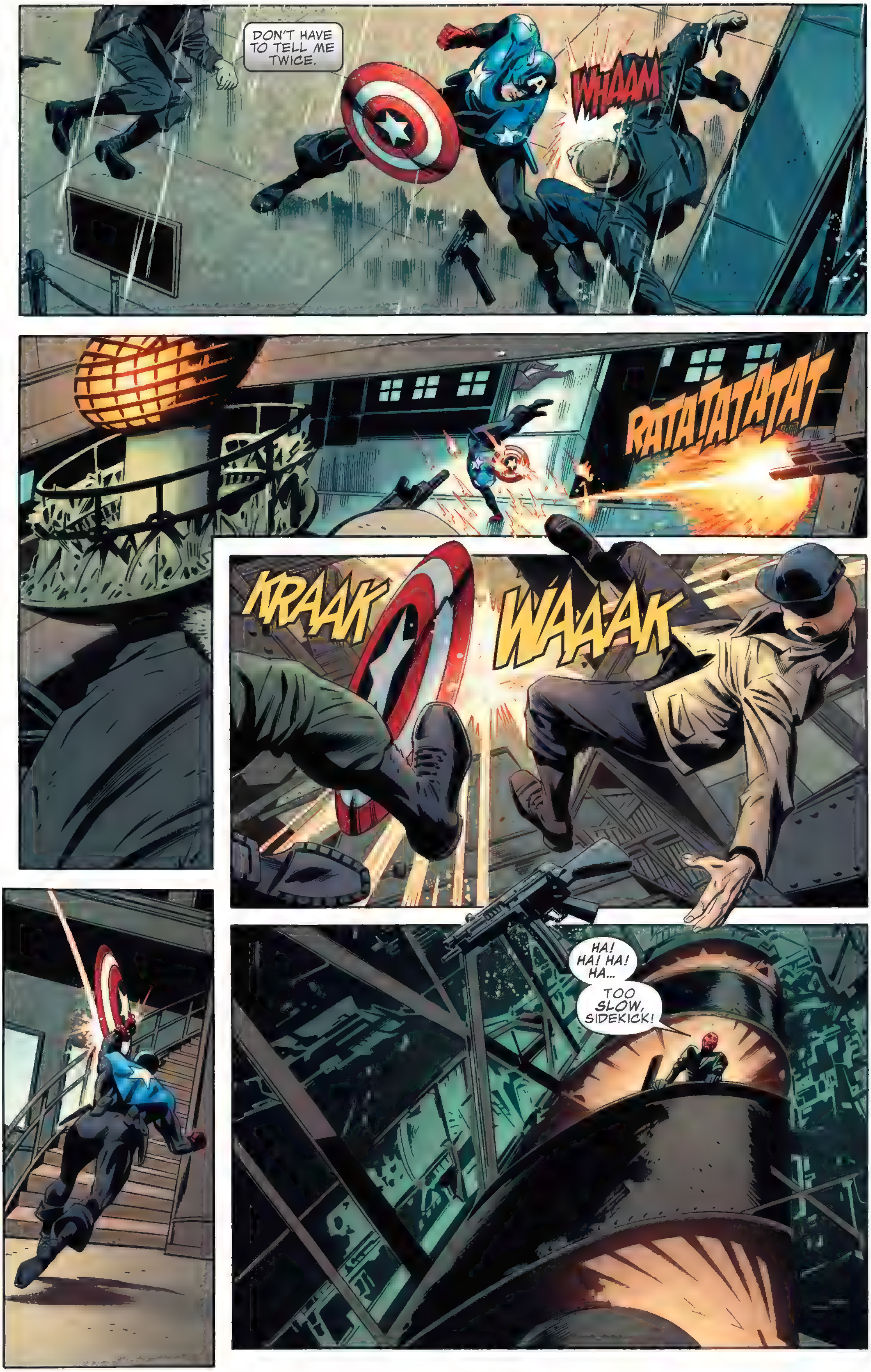


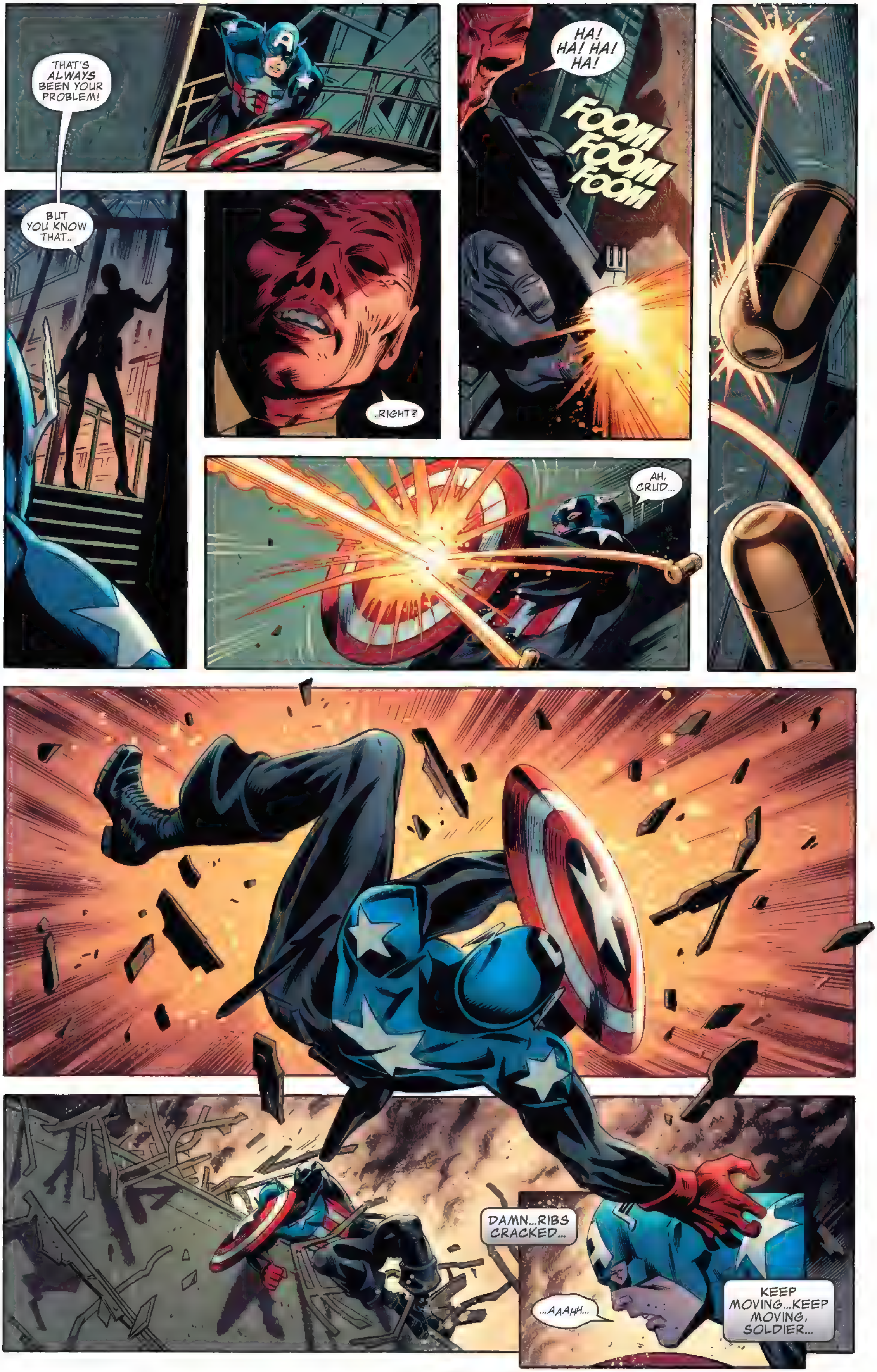

THERE'S A MOMENT WHERE I THINK THIS IS GOING TO BE *EASY*...
...UNLIKE THE MESS THAT THE ***REST*** OF MY LIFE HAS BECOME.
BUT IT'S JUST A *MOMENT*.
GYAARRR!
THAT'S HOW LONG IT TAKES ***MASTER MAN*** TO RECOVER.

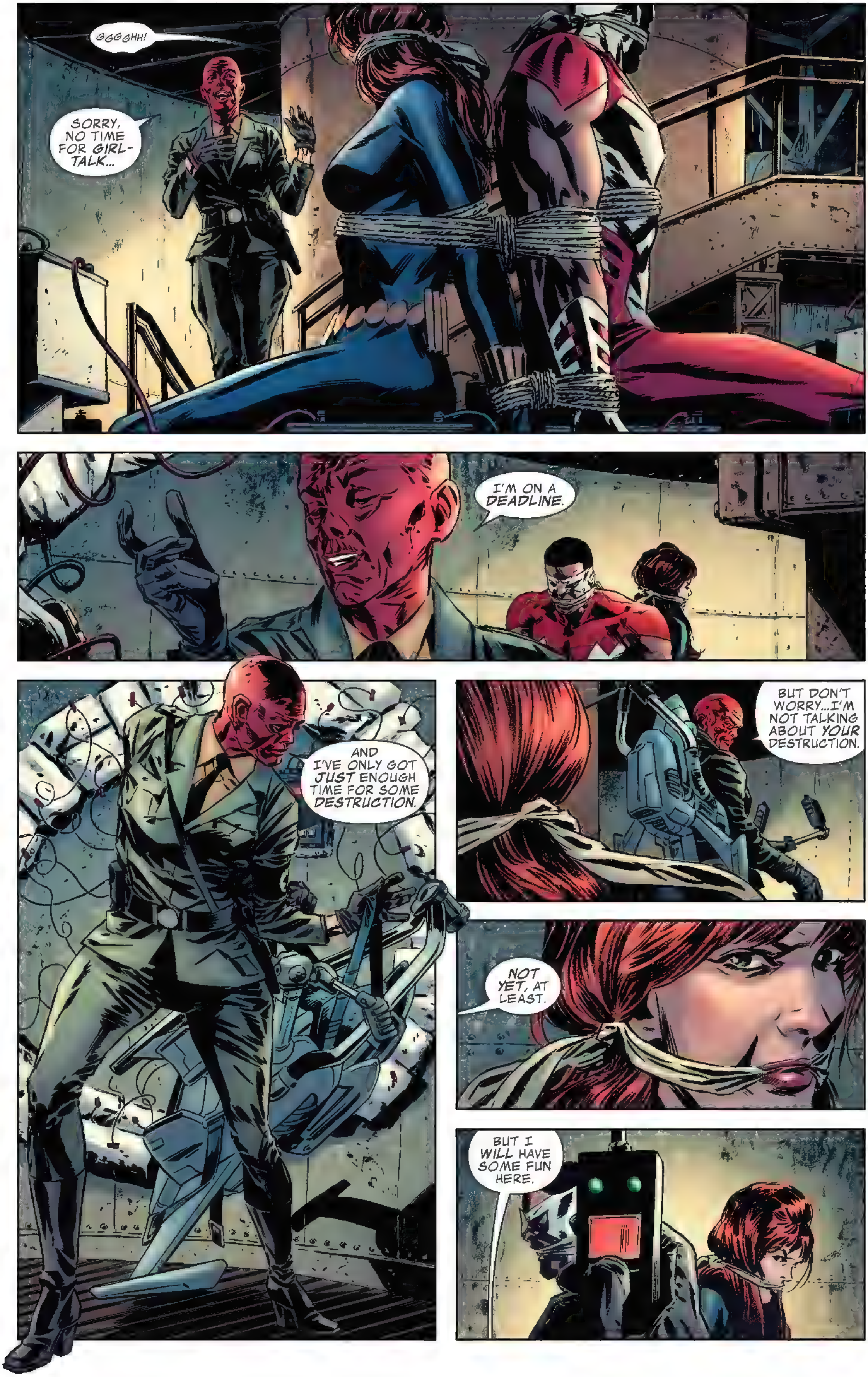

THIS ONE'S *STRONGER* THAN HIS GRANDDAD WAS BACK IN THE WAR.
GUUHH--!
LUCKY ME.
BUT HE DOESN'T SEEM ANY FASTER...
KRAANG
AAHH-!
SO, JUST KEEP *MOVING*, BUCK...
JUST--
WHAAM

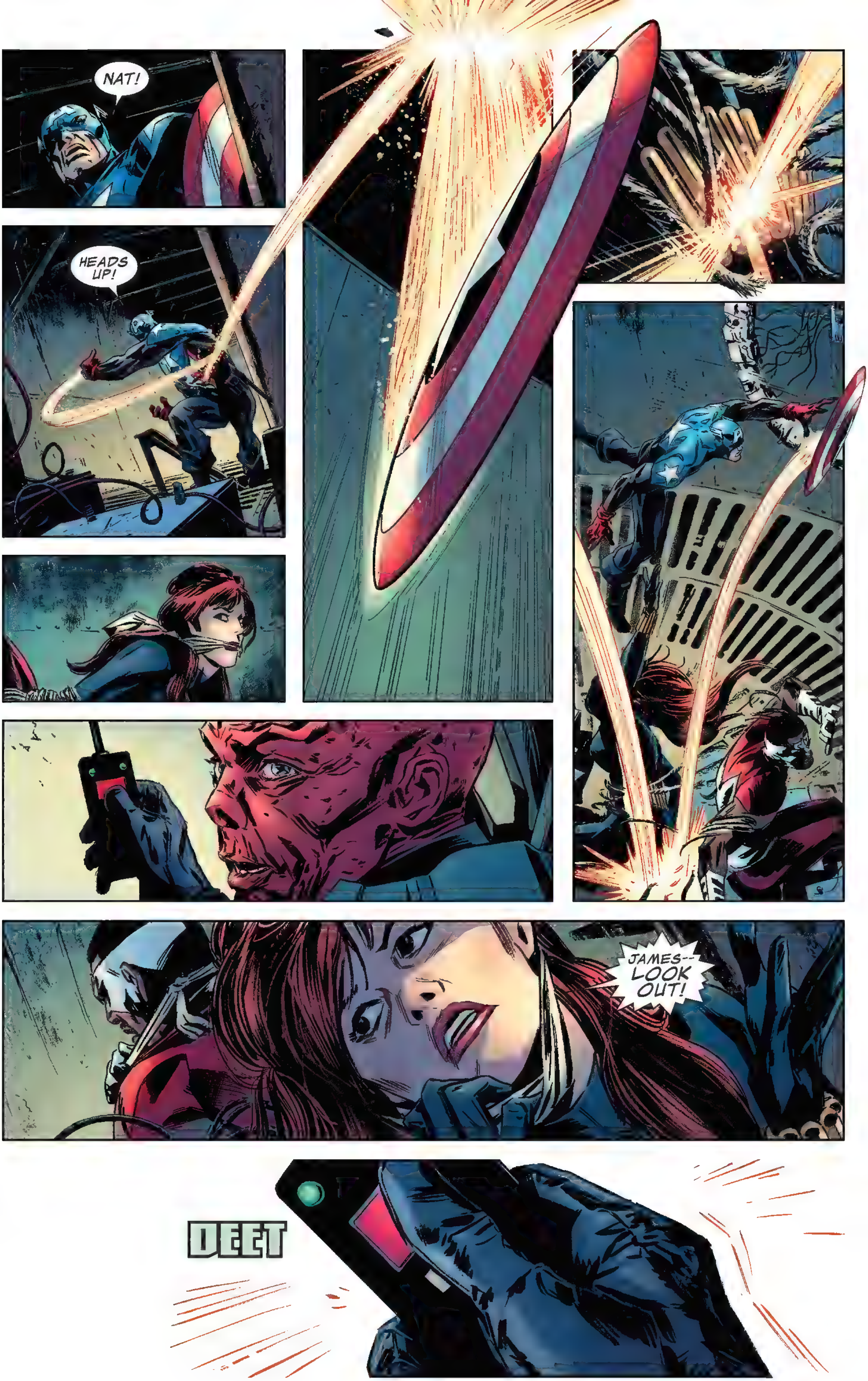

OKAY...HE'S *FASTER*, TOO.
YOU'RE A *FOOL*...AND I WILL TEAR YOUR *ENTRAILS* FROM YOUR--
--GUHH--
GOTTA REMEMBER TO THANK STARK FOR DOING SUCH A GOOD JOB ON THE *IMPACT RESISTANCE* IN THIS UNIFORM.
THINK IT JUST SAVED MY LIFE.
KA-WAAM
OR KEPT ME GOING LONG ENOUGH FOR *BACKUP* TO ARRIVE, AT LEAST.
OKAY... SHAKE IT OFF, BUCK...
GET YOUR BEARINGS.

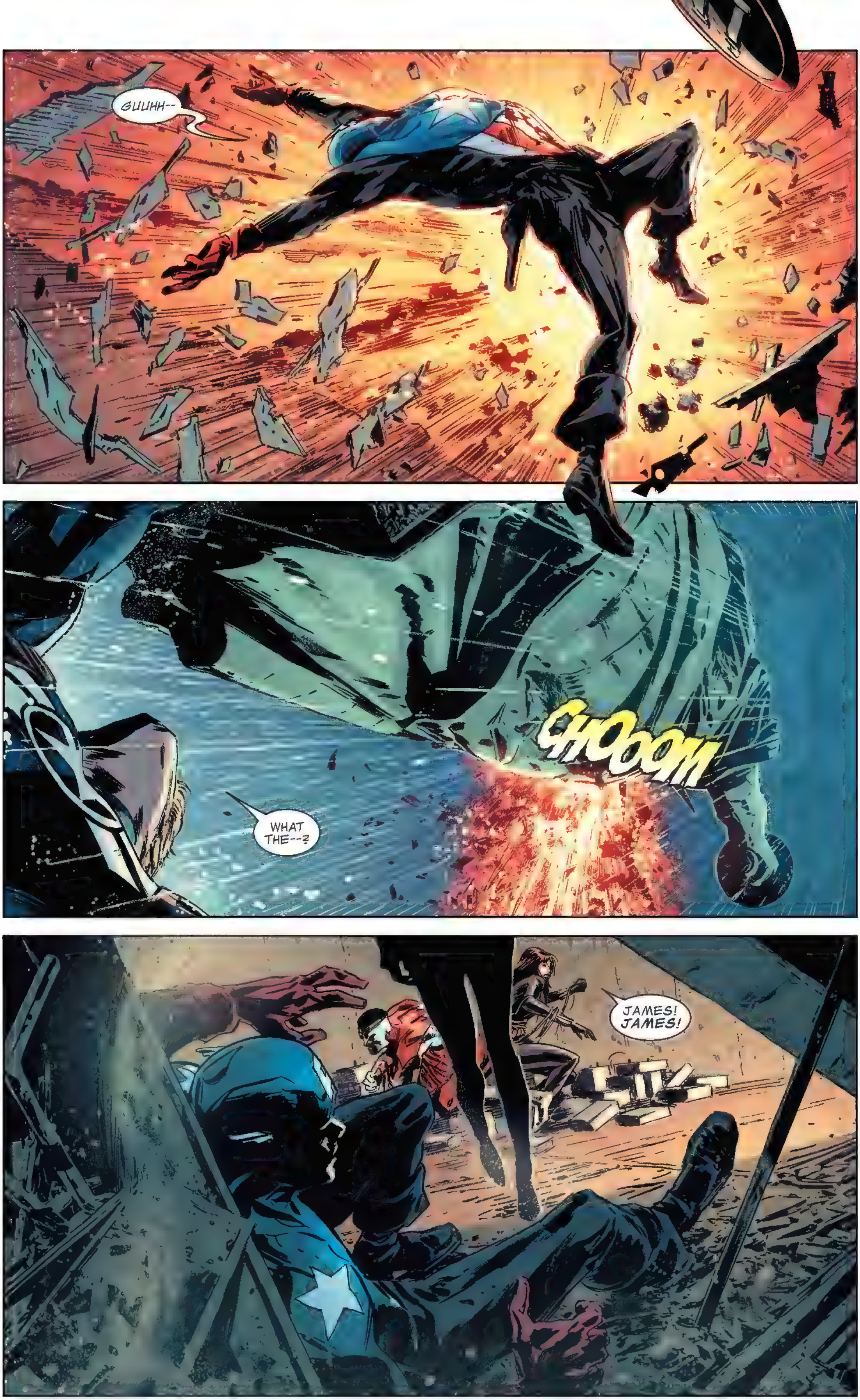

DAMN IT, SHARON'S OUTNUMBERED.
SHE'S GOOD... BUT...
KA-TAANG
YUUH--
BLAANG
GO, BUCKY! AFTER SIN!
SAVE SAM AND 'TASHA!
KRAAK
WE'VE GOT THIS!

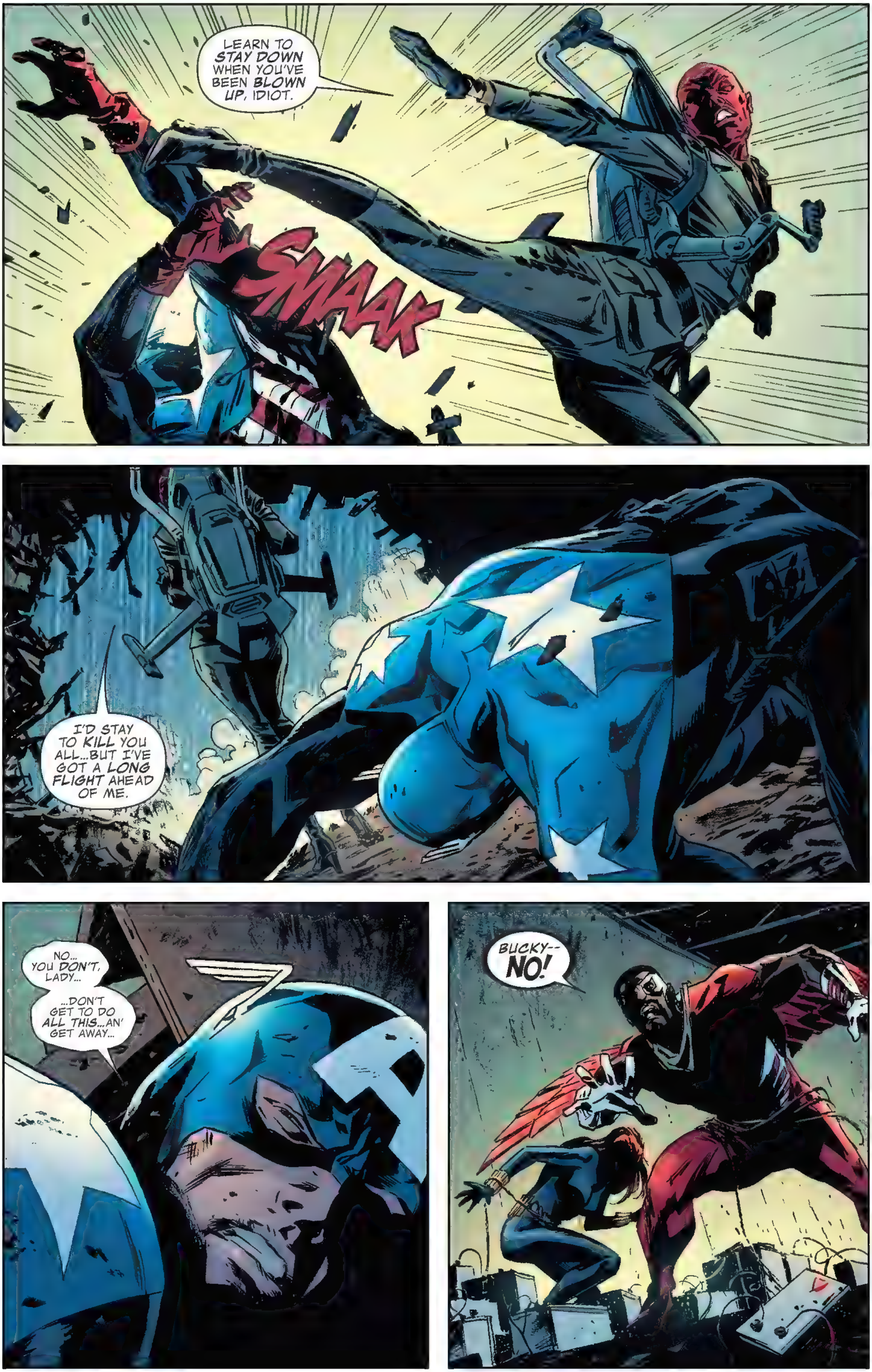

DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME TWICE.
WHAAM
RATATATATAT
KRAAK
WAAAK
HA! HA! HA! HA...
TOO SLOW, SIDEKICK!

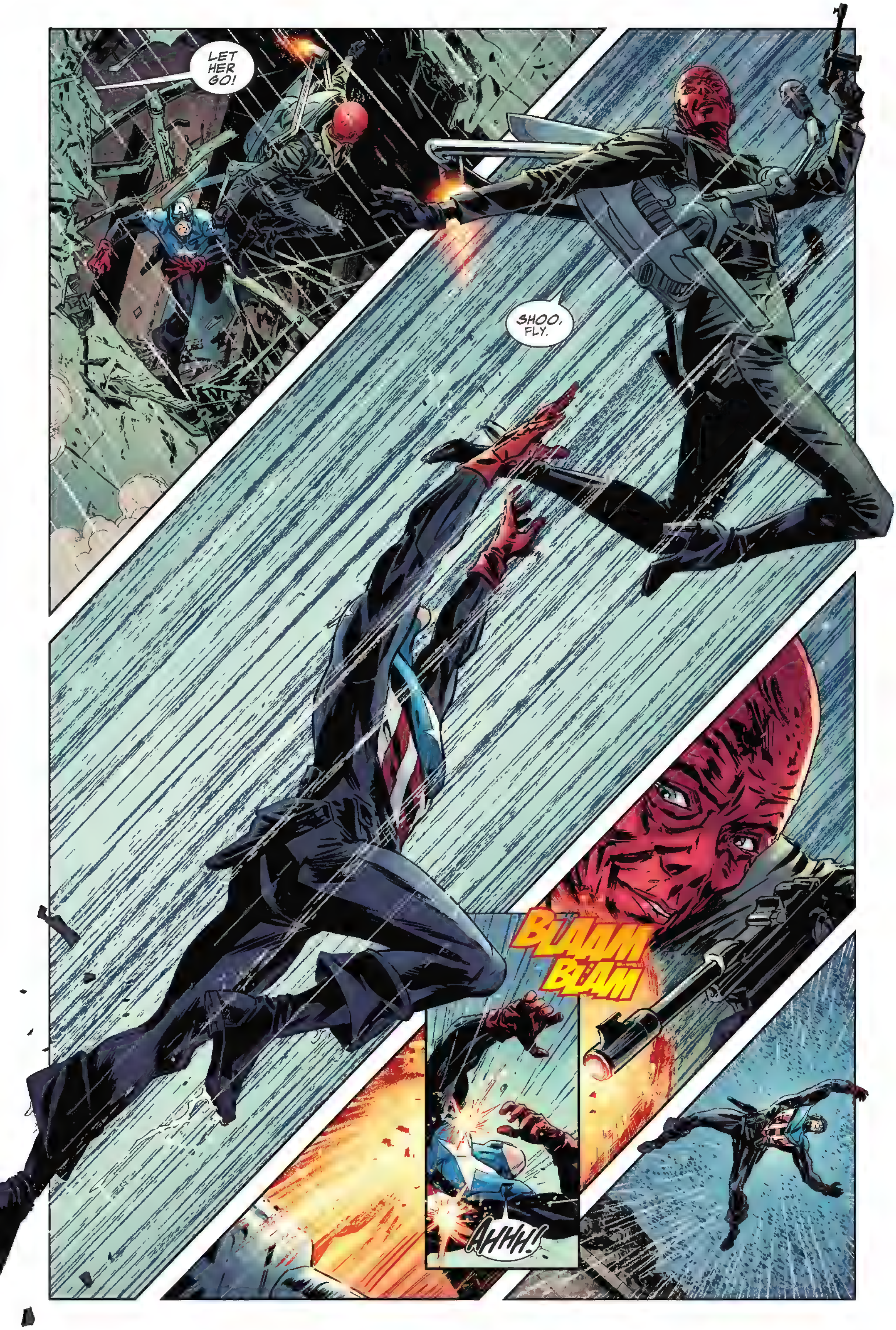

THAT'S ALWAYS BEEN YOUR PROBLEM!
BUT YOU KNOW THAT..
..RIGHT?
HA! HA! HA! HA!
FOOM FOOM FOOM
AH, CRUD...
DAMN...RIBS CRACKED...
...AAAHH...
KEEP MOVING...KEEP MOVING, SOLDIER...

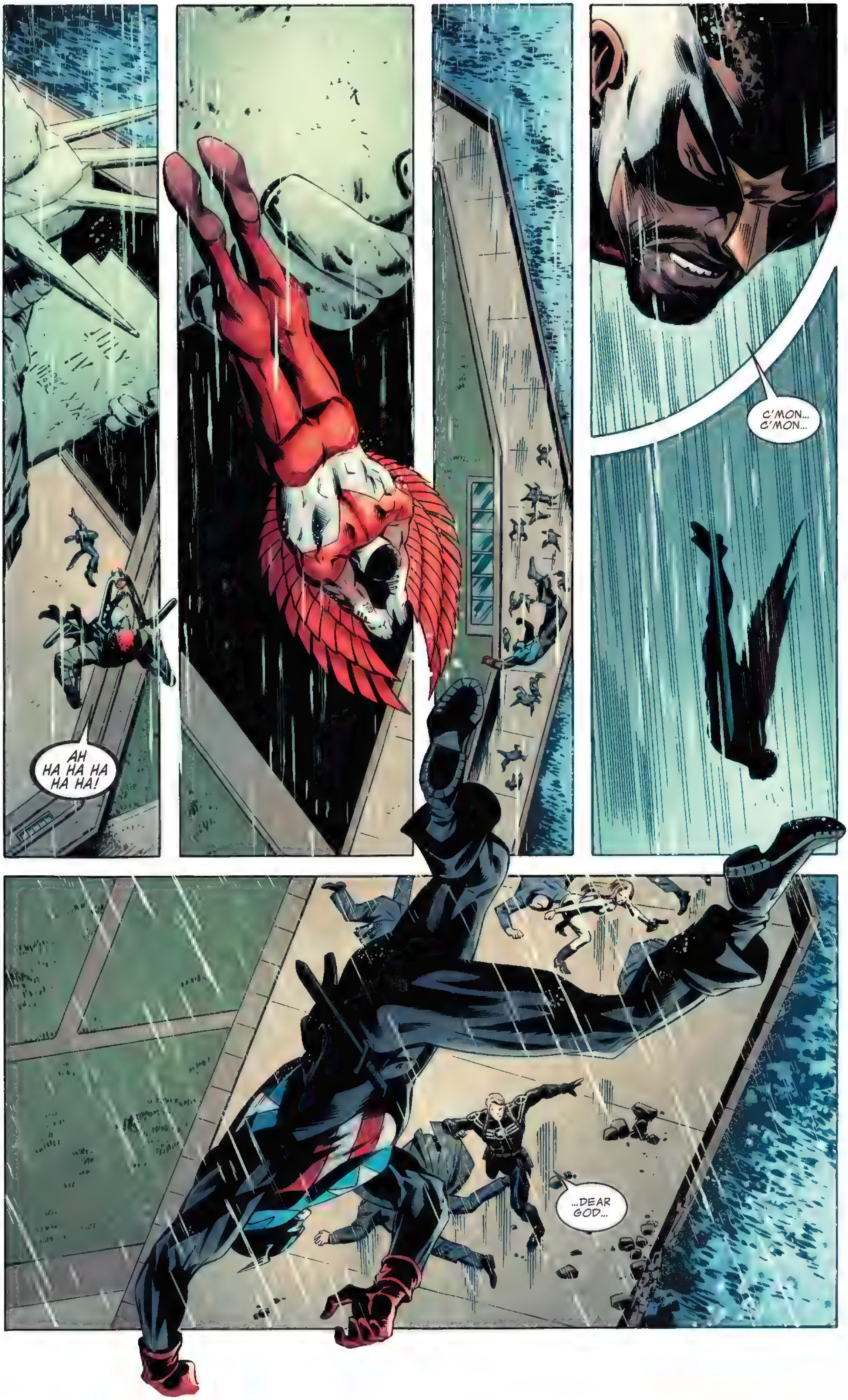

GGGGHH!
SORRY, NO TIME FOR GIRL-TALK...
I'M ON A DEADLINE.
AND I'VE ONLY GOT JUST ENOUGH TIME FOR SOME DESTRUCTION.
BUT DON'T WORRY...I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT YOUR DESTRUCTION.
NOT YET, AT LEAST.
BUT I WILL HAVE SOME FUN HERE.

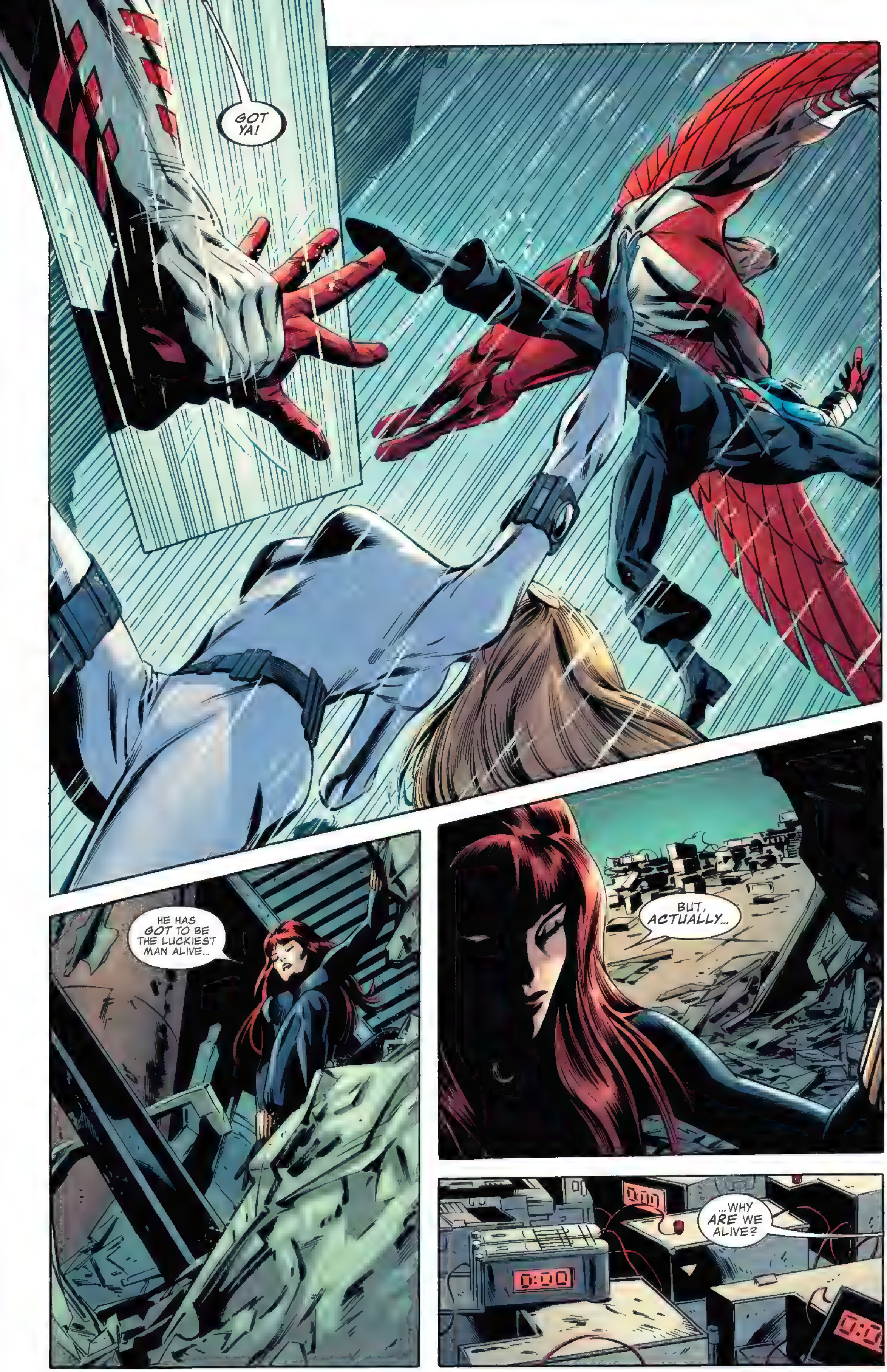

NAT!
HEADS UP!
JAMES-- LOOK OUT!
DEET

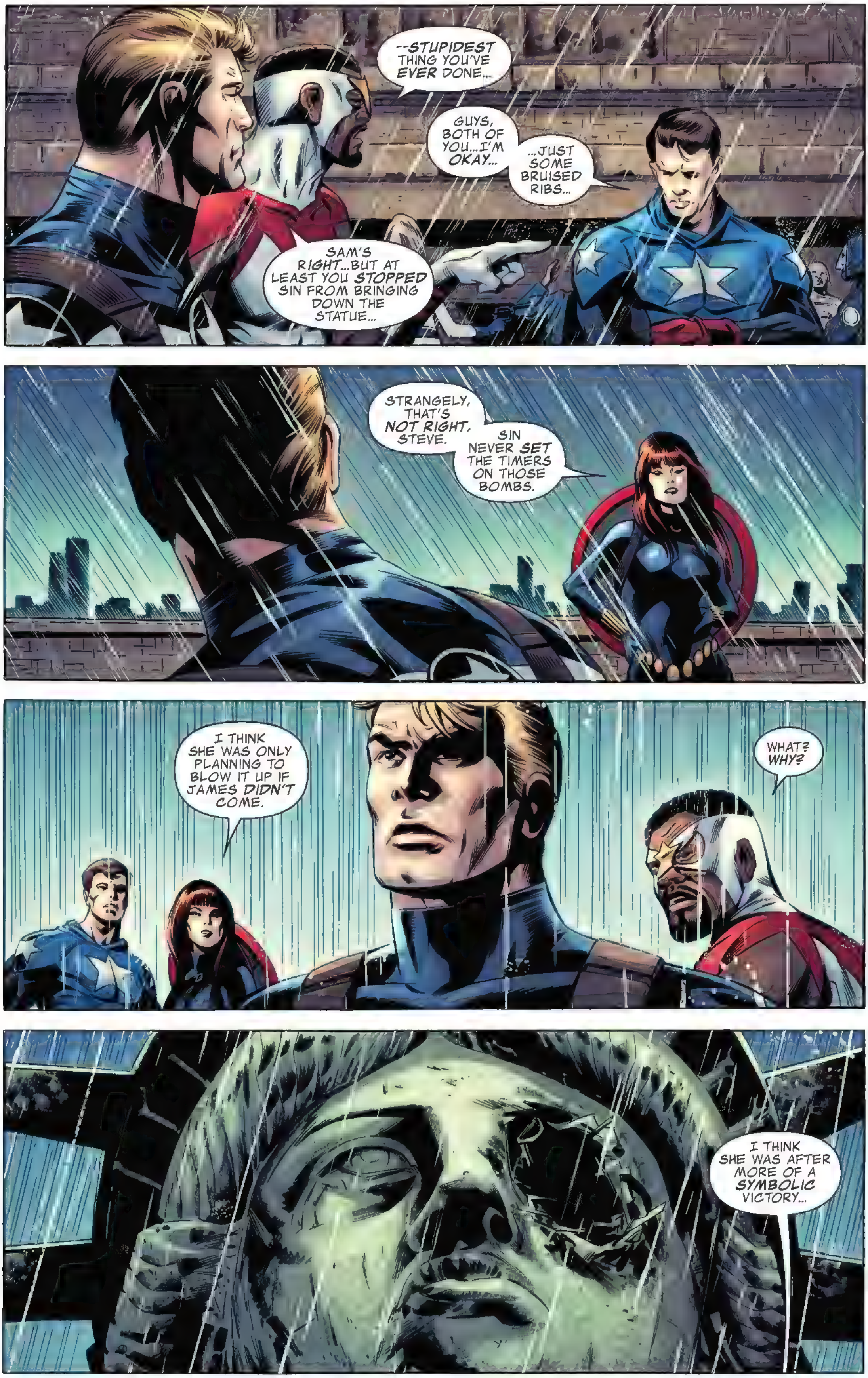

GUUHH--
CHOOOM
WHAT THE--?
JAMES! JAMES!

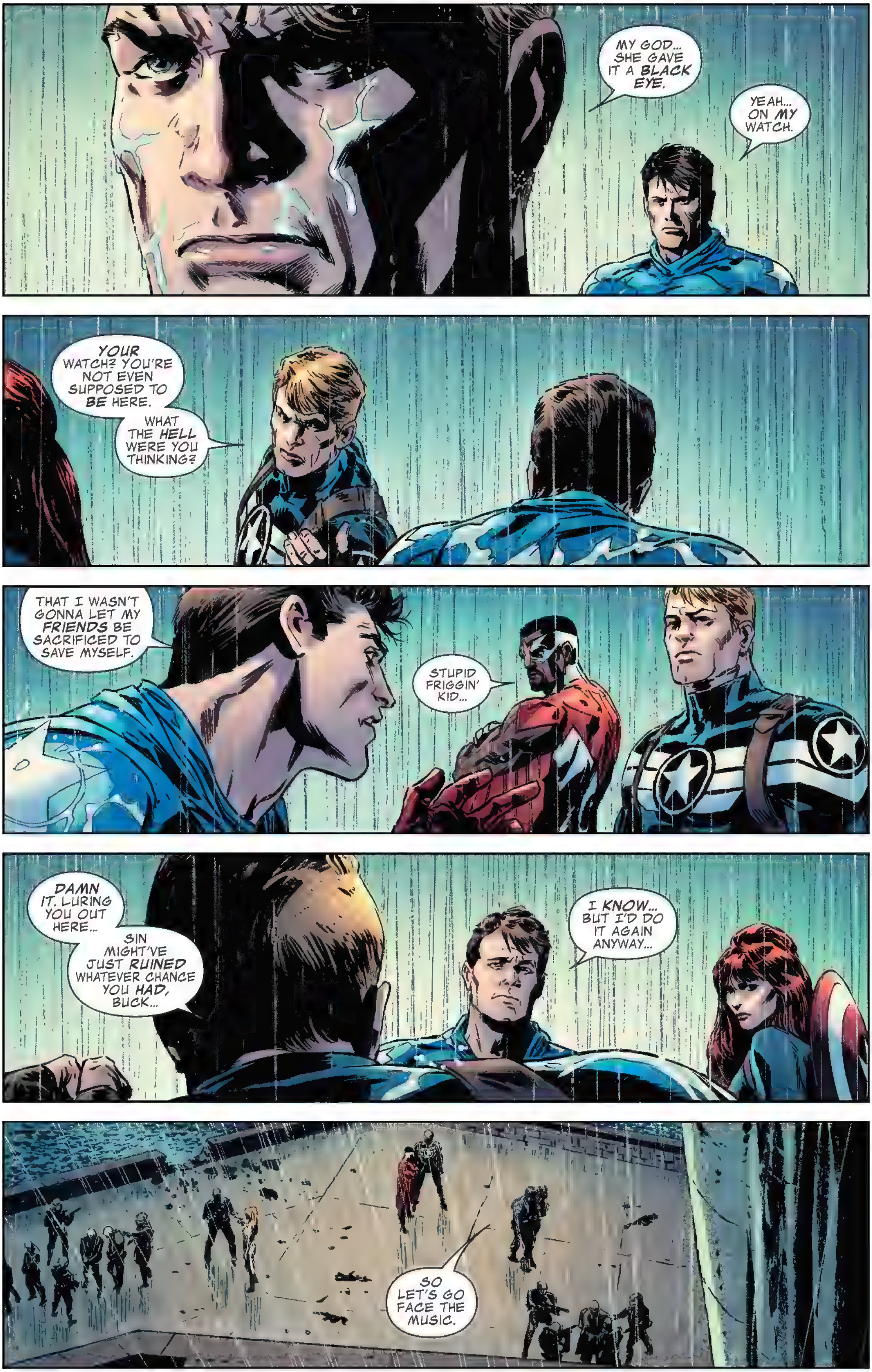

LEARN TO STAY DOWN WHEN YOU'VE BEEN BLOWN UP, IDIOT.
SMAAK
I'D STAY TO KILL YOU ALL...BUT I'VE GOT A LONG FLIGHT AHEAD OF ME.
NO... YOU DON'T, LADY...
...DON'T GET TO DO ALL THIS...AN' GET AWAY...
BUCKY-- NO!

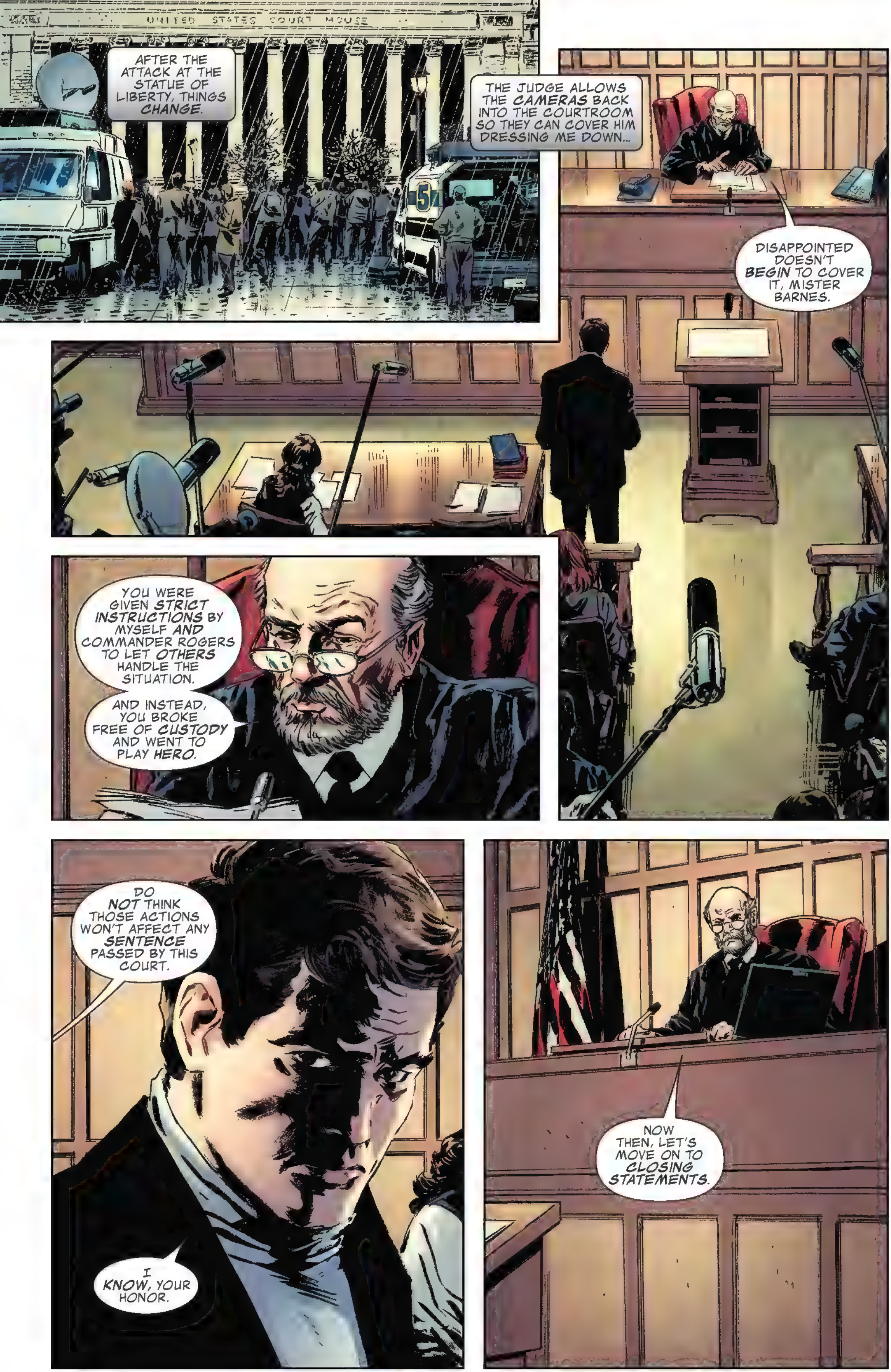

LET HER GO!
SHOO, FLY.
BLAAM
BLAM
AHHH!

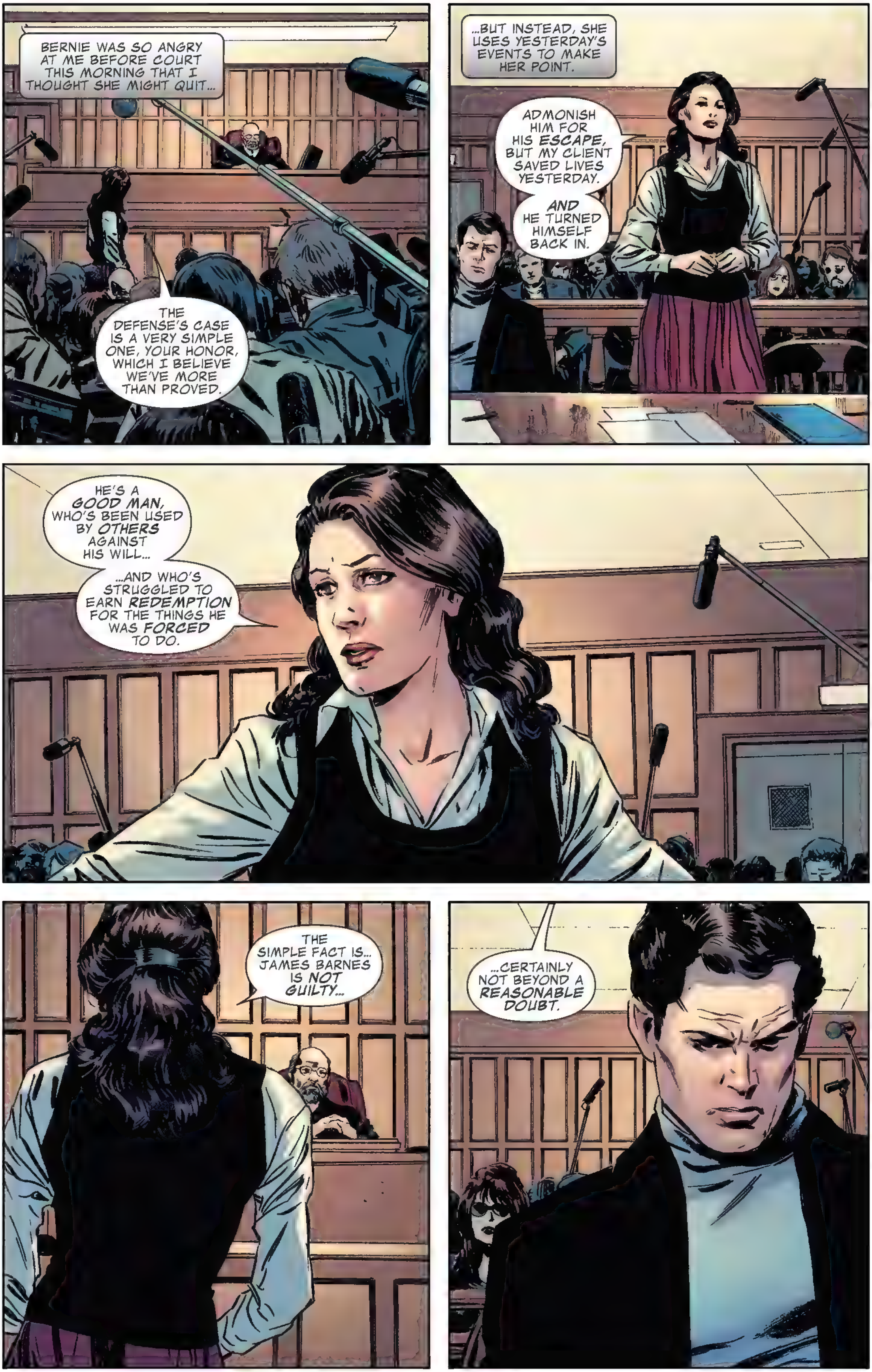

AH HA HA HA HA HA!
C'MON... C'MON...
...DEAR GOD...

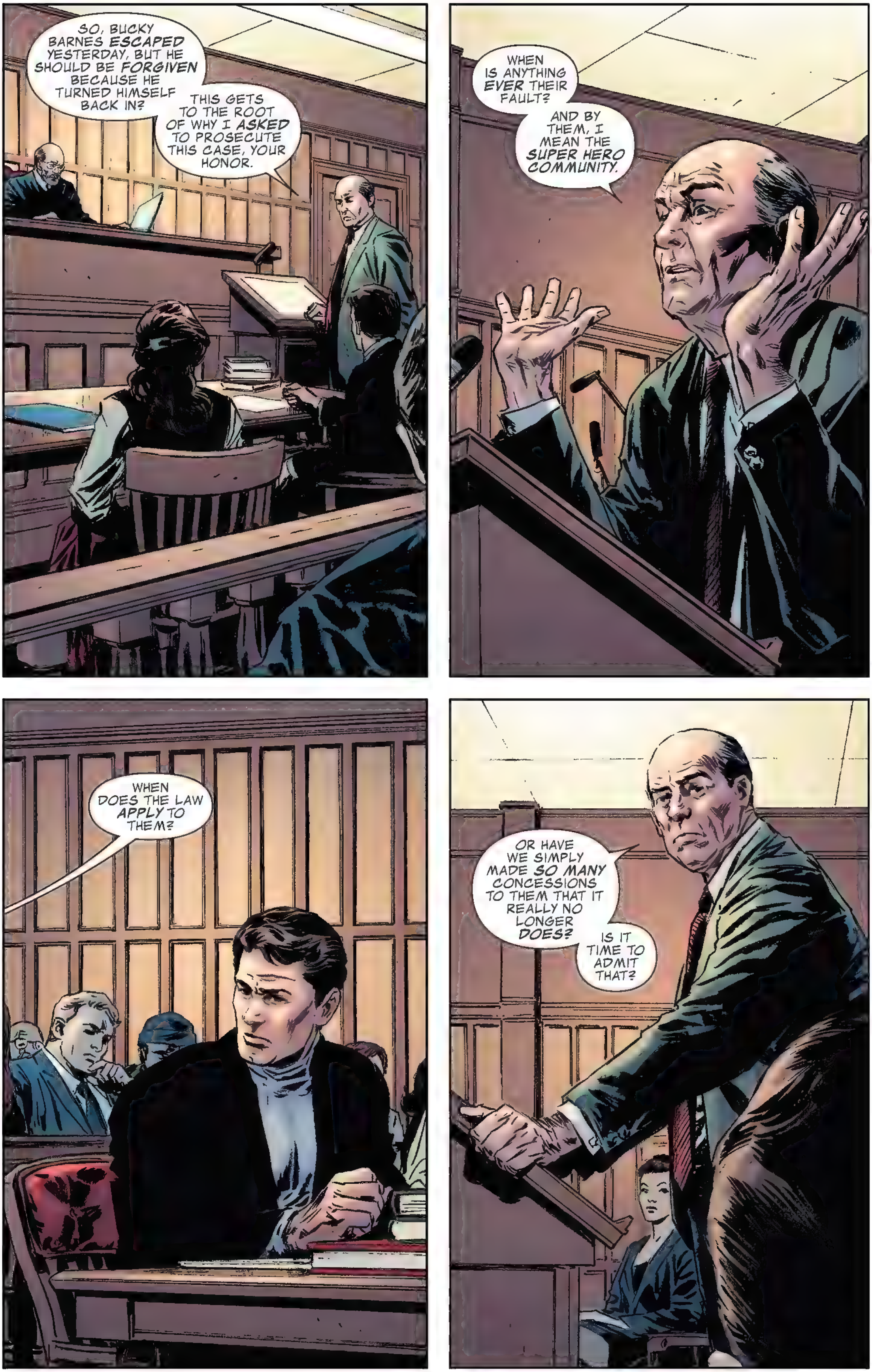

GOT YA!
HE HAS GOT TO BE THE LUCKIEST MAN ALIVE...
BUT, ACTUALLY...
0:00
0:00
...WHY ARE WE ALIVE?

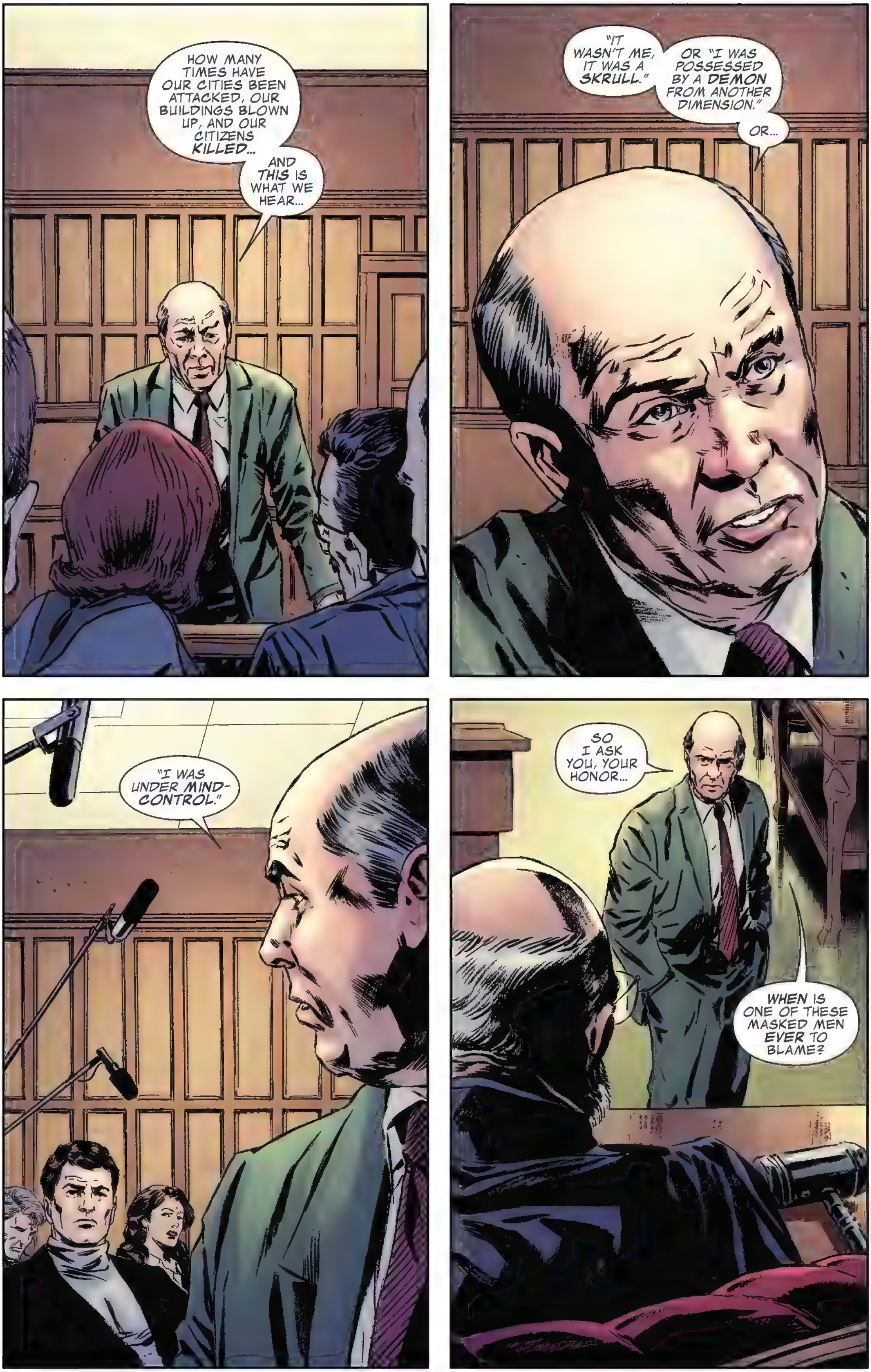

--STUPIDEST THING YOU'VE EVER DONE...
GUYS, BOTH OF YOU...I'M OKAY...
...JUST SOME BRUISED RIBS...
SAM'S RIGHT...BUT AT LEAST YOU STOPPED SIN FROM BRINGING DOWN THE STATUE...
STRANGELY, THAT'S NOT RIGHT, STEVE.
SIN NEVER SET THE TIMERS ON THOSE BOMBS.
I THINK SHE WAS ONLY PLANNING TO BLOW IT UP IF JAMES DIDN'T COME.
WHAT? WHY?
I THINK SHE WAS AFTER MORE OF A SYMBOLIC VICTORY...

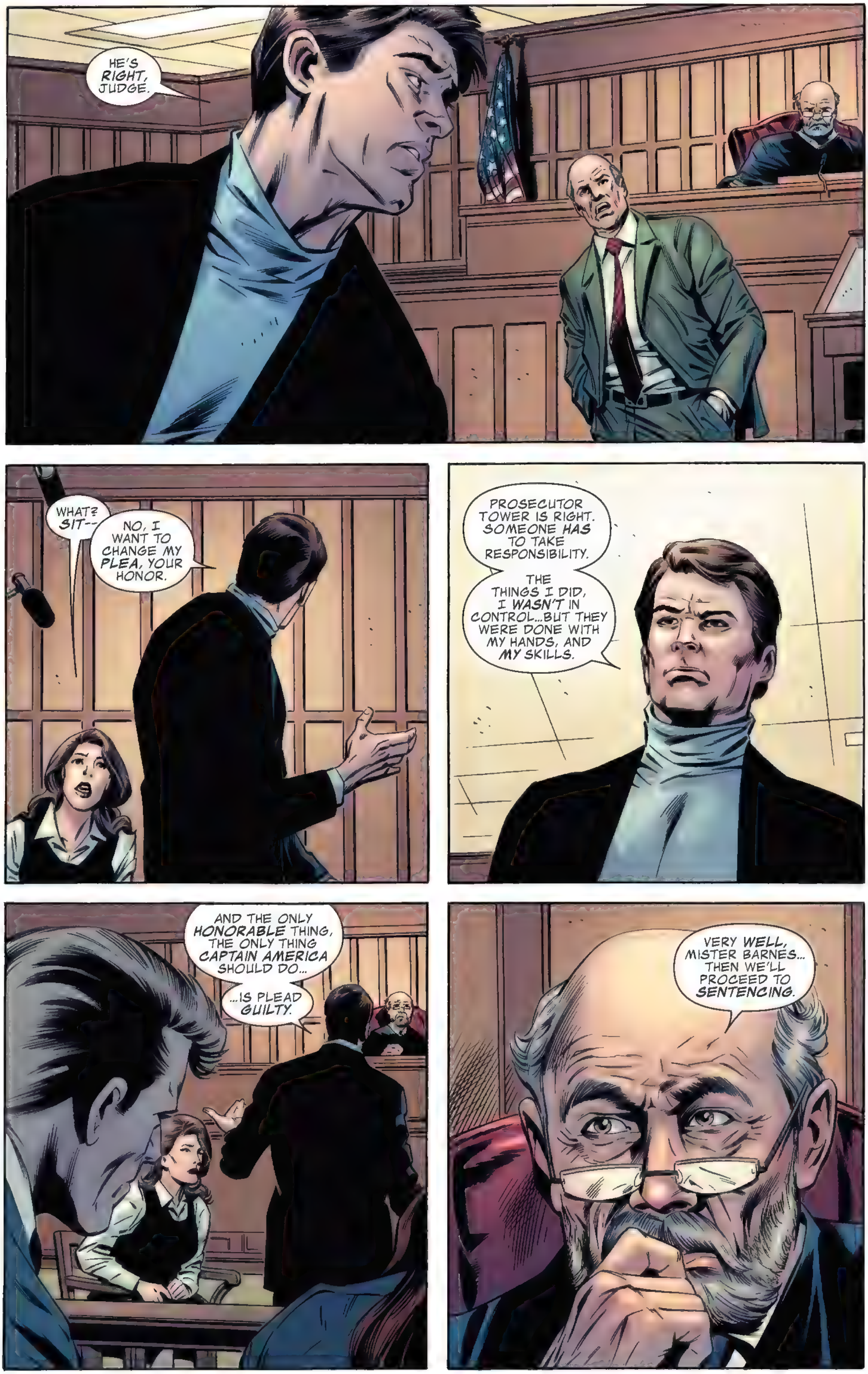

MY GOD... SHE GAVE IT A BLACK EYE.
YEAH... ON MY WATCH.
YOUR WATCH? YOU'RE NOT EVEN SUPPOSED TO BE HERE.
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU THINKING?
THAT I WASN'T GONNA LET MY FRIENDS BE SACRIFICED TO SAVE MYSELF.
STUPID FRIGGIN' KID...
DAMN IT. LURING YOU OUT HERE...
SIN MIGHT'VE JUST RUINED WHATEVER CHANCE YOU HAD, BUCK...
I KNOW... BUT I'D DO IT AGAIN ANYWAY...
SO LET'S GO FACE THE MUSIC.

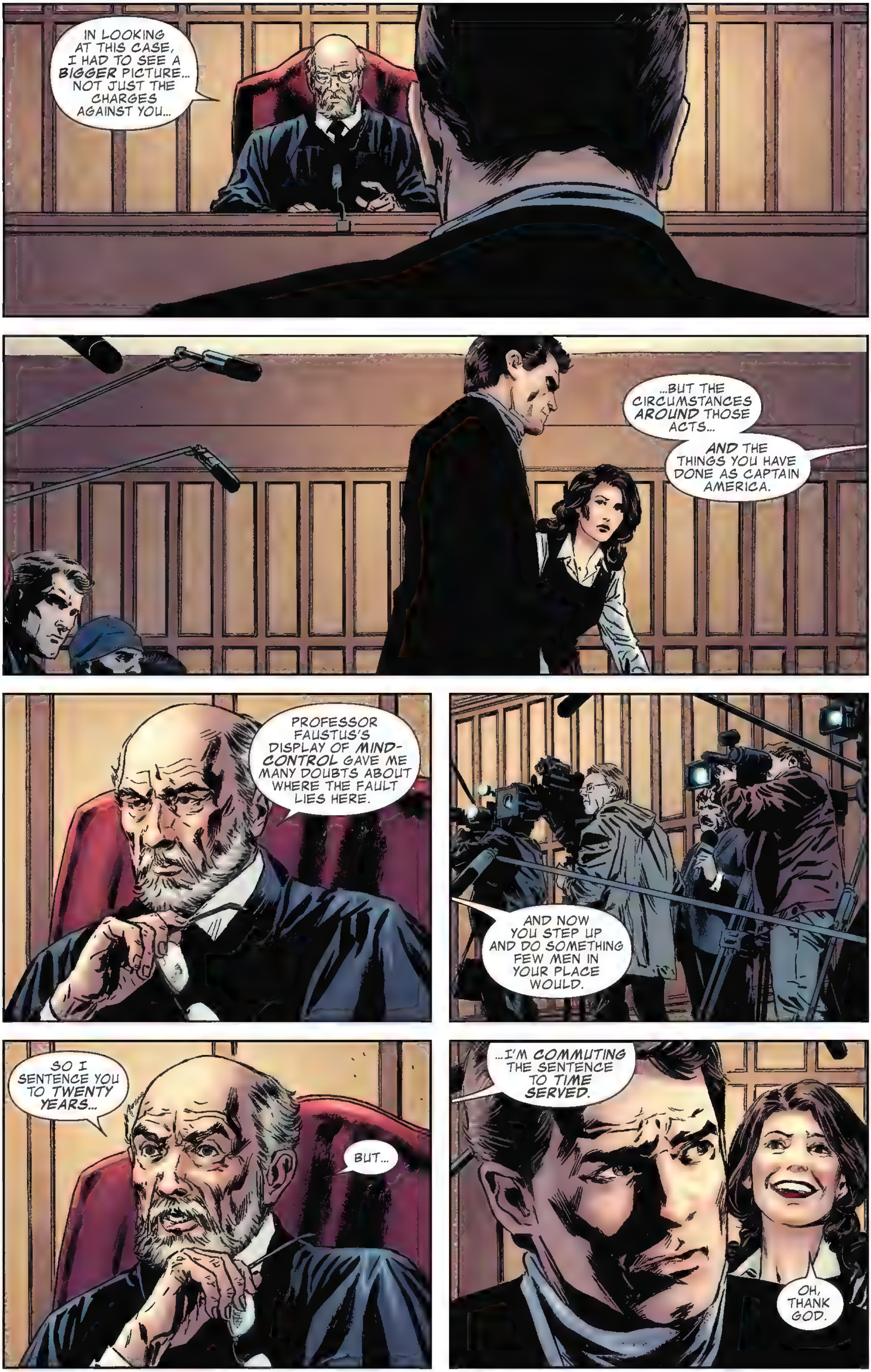

UNITED STATES COURT HOUSE
AFTER THE ATTACK AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, THINGS *CHANGE*.
THE JUDGE ALLOWS THE *CAMERAS* BACK INTO THE COURTROOM SO THEY CAN COVER HIM DRESSING ME DOWN...
DISAPPOINTED DOESN'T *BEGIN* TO COVER IT, MISTER BARNES.
YOU WERE GIVEN *STRICT INSTRUCTIONS* BY MYSELF *AND* COMMANDER ROGERS TO LET *OTHERS* HANDLE THE SITUATION.
AND INSTEAD, YOU BROKE FREE OF *CUSTODY* AND WENT TO PLAY *HERO*.
DO *NOT* THINK THOSE ACTIONS WON'T AFFECT ANY *SENTENCE* PASSED BY THIS COURT.
I *KNOW*, YOUR HONOR.
NOW THEN, LET'S MOVE ON TO *CLOSING STATEMENTS*.

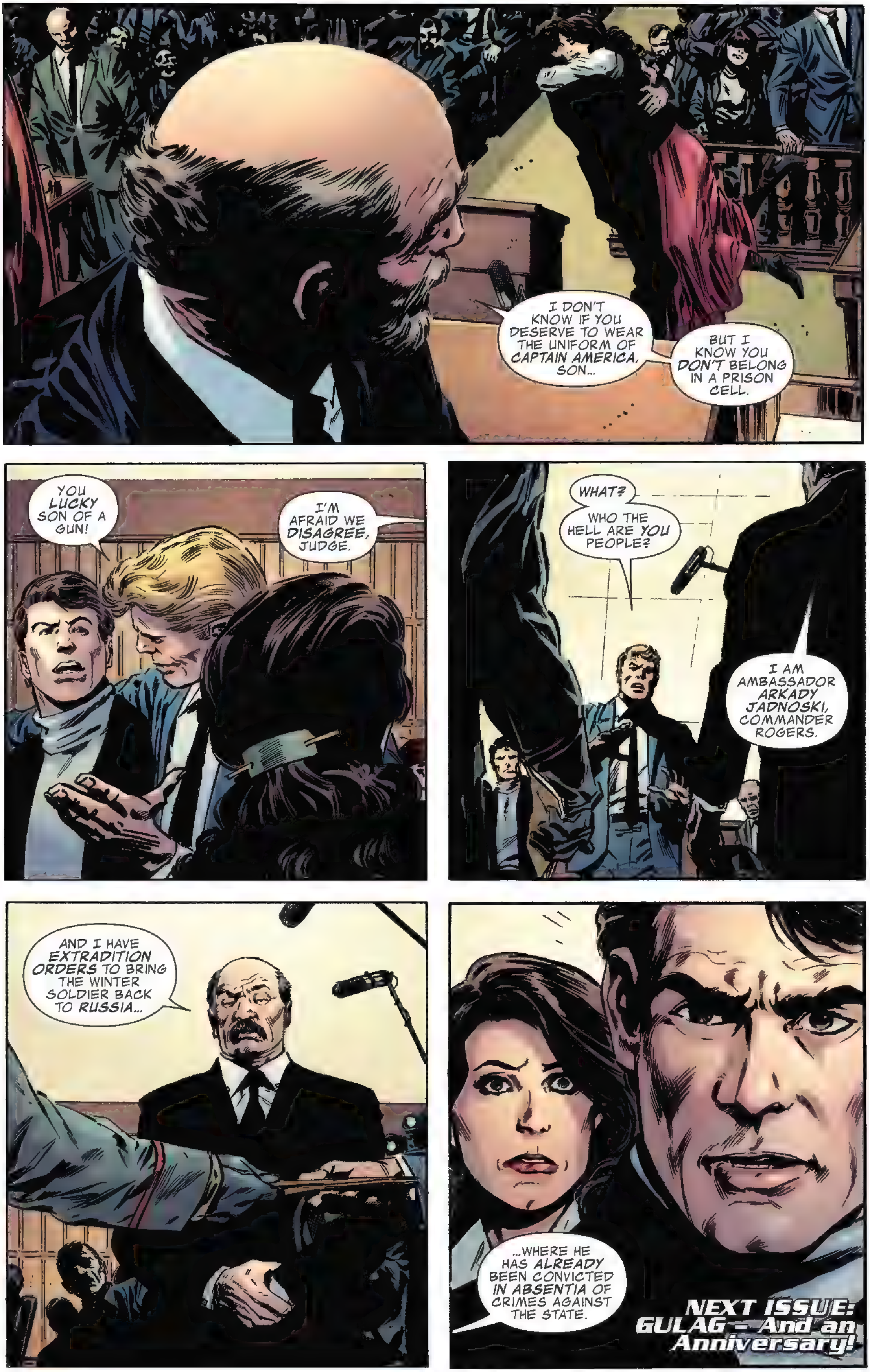

BERNIE WAS SO ANGRY AT ME BEFORE COURT THIS MORNING THAT I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT QUIT...
THE DEFENSE'S CASE IS A VERY SIMPLE ONE, YOUR HONOR, WHICH I BELIEVE WE'VE MORE THAN PROVED.
...BUT INSTEAD, SHE USES YESTERDAY'S EVENTS TO MAKE HER POINT.
ADMONISH HIM FOR HIS **ESCAPE**, BUT MY CLIENT SAVED LIVES YESTERDAY.
AND HE TURNED HIMSELF BACK IN.
HE'S A **GOOD MAN**, WHO'S BEEN USED BY **OTHERS** AGAINST HIS WILL...
...AND WHO'S STRUGGLED TO EARN **REDEMPTION** FOR THE THINGS HE WAS **FORCED** TO DO.
THE SIMPLE FACT IS... JAMES BARNES IS **NOT GUILTY**...
...CERTAINLY NOT BEYOND A **REASONABLE DOUBT**.


SO, BUCKY BARNES ESCAPED YESTERDAY, BUT HE SHOULD BE FORGIVEN BECAUSE HE TURNED HIMSELF BACK IN?
THIS GETS TO THE ROOT OF WHY I ASKED TO PROSECUTE THIS CASE, YOUR HONOR.
WHEN IS ANYTHING EVER THEIR FAULT?
AND BY THEM, I MEAN THE SUPER HERO COMMUNITY.
WHEN DOES THE LAW APPLY TO THEM?
OR HAVE WE SIMPLY MADE SO MANY CONCESSIONS TO THEM THAT IT REALLY NO LONGER DOES?
IS IT TIME TO ADMIT THAT?


HOW MANY TIMES HAVE OUR CITIES BEEN ATTACKED, OUR BUILDINGS BLOWN UP, AND OUR CITIZENS KILLED...
AND THIS IS WHAT WE HEAR...
"IT WASN'T ME, IT WAS A SKRULL."
OR "I WAS POSSESSED BY A DEMON FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION."
OR...
"I WAS UNDER MIND-CONTROL."
SO I ASK YOU, YOUR HONOR...
WHEN IS ONE OF THESE MASKED MEN EVER TO BLAME?


HE'S RIGHT, JUDGE.
WHAT? SIT--
NO, I WANT TO CHANGE MY PLEA, YOUR HONOR.
PROSECUTOR TOWER IS RIGHT. SOMEONE HAS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY.
THE THINGS I DID, I WASN'T IN CONTROL...BUT THEY WERE DONE WITH MY HANDS, AND MY SKILLS.
AND THE ONLY HONORABLE THING, THE ONLY THING CAPTAIN AMERICA SHOULD DO...
...IS PLEAD GUILTY.
VERY WELL, MISTER BARNES... THEN WE'LL PROCEED TO SENTENCING.


IN LOOKING AT THIS CASE, I HAD TO SEE A *BIGGER* PICTURE... NOT JUST THE CHARGES AGAINST YOU...
...BUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES *AROUND* THOSE ACTS...
AND THE THINGS YOU HAVE DONE AS CAPTAIN AMERICA.
PROFESSOR FAUSTUS'S DISPLAY OF *MIND-CONTROL* GAVE ME MANY DOUBTS ABOUT WHERE THE FAULT LIES HERE.
AND NOW YOU STEP UP AND DO SOMETHING FEW MEN IN YOUR PLACE WOULD.
SO I SENTENCE YOU TO *TWENTY YEARS*...
BUT...
...I'M *COMMUTING* THE SENTENCE TO *TIME SERVED*.
OH, THANK GOD.


I DON'T KNOW IF YOU DESERVE TO WEAR THE UNIFORM OF *CAPTAIN AMERICA*, SON...
BUT I KNOW YOU *DON'T* BELONG IN A PRISON CELL.
YOU *LUCKY* SON OF A GUN!
I'M AFRAID WE *DISAGREE*, JUDGE.
WHAT?
WHO THE HELL ARE *YOU* PEOPLE?
I AM AMBASSADOR *ARKADY JADNOSKI*, COMMANDER ROGERS.
AND I HAVE *EXTRADITION ORDERS* TO BRING THE WINTER SOLDIER BACK TO *RUSSIA*...
...WHERE HE HAS *ALREADY* BEEN CONVICTED *IN ABSENTIA* OF CRIMES AGAINST THE STATE.
NEXT ISSUE: GULAG – And an Anniversary!

CAPTAIN AMERICA

MARVEL.1
615.1

BRUBAKER
M. BREITWEISER
B. BREITWEISER

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AS WORLD WAR II RAGED ON, A YOUNG, SCRAWNY **STEVE ROGERS,** WAS SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN **OPERATION: REBIRTH,** WHERE HE WAS INJECTED WITH THE SUPER-SOLDIER FORMULA DEVELOPED BY PROFESSOR ERSKINE. AS SOON AS STEVE ABSORBED THE SERUM, A NAZI SPY SHOT ERSKINE, KILLING THE ONLY SOURCE FOR THE FORMULA. STEVE WENT ON TO FIGHT FOR HIS COUNTRY AS

CAPTAIN AMERICA

IN THE PRESENT, ROGERS CARRIES ON THE BATTLE FOR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY AS AMERICA'S TOP LAW-ENFORCEMENT OPERATIVE AND COMMANDER OF THE MIGHTY AVENGERS.

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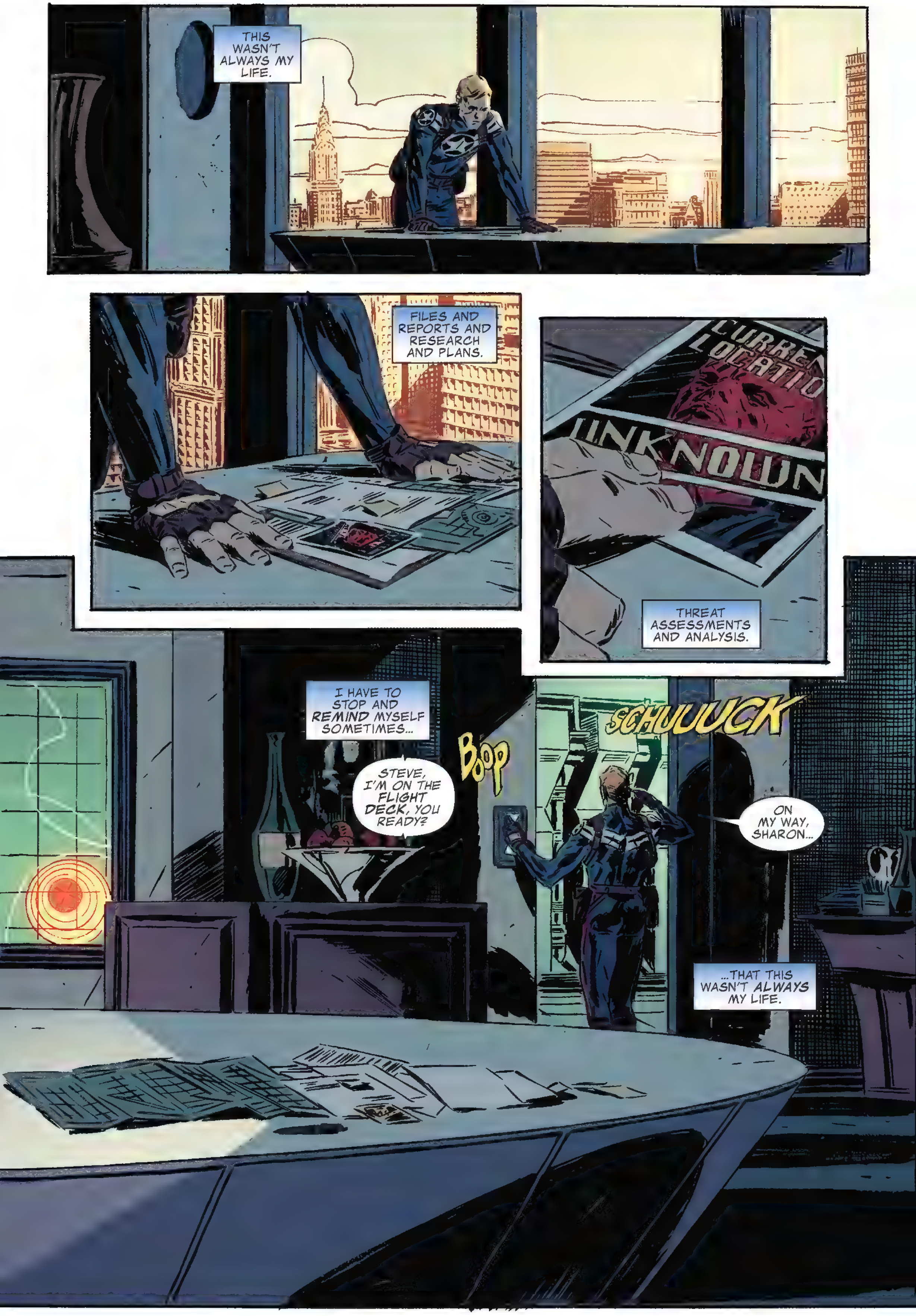
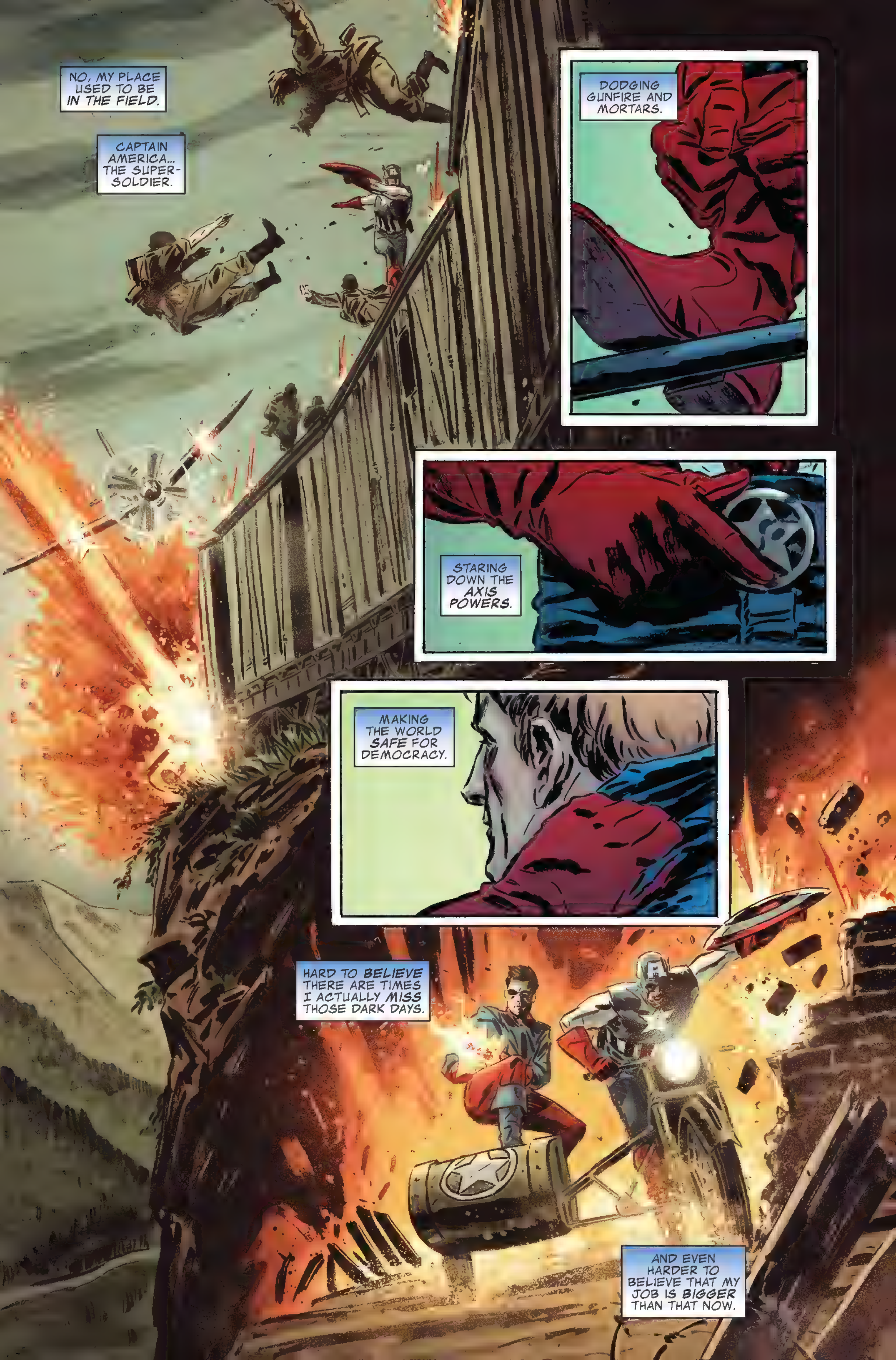
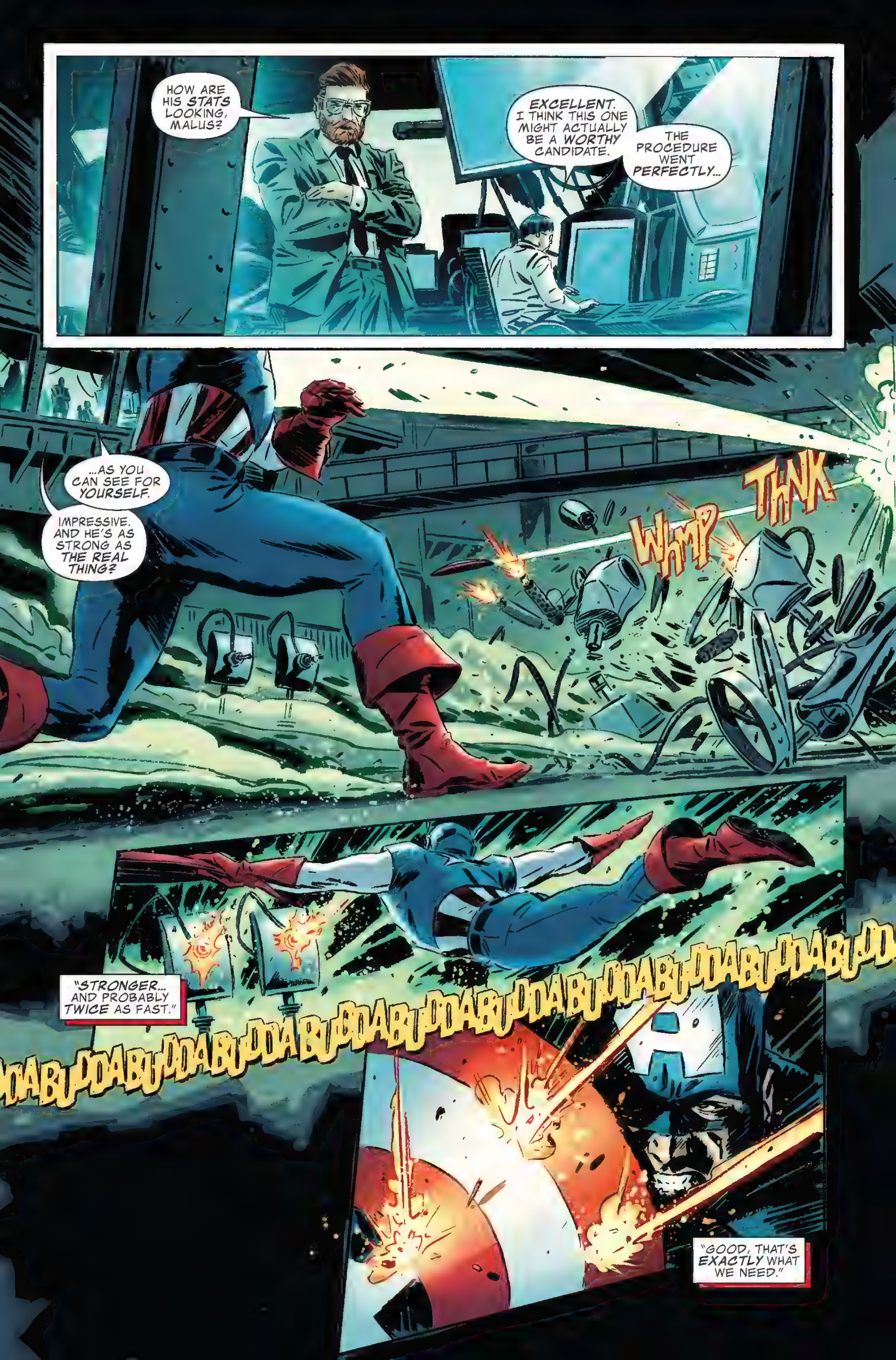
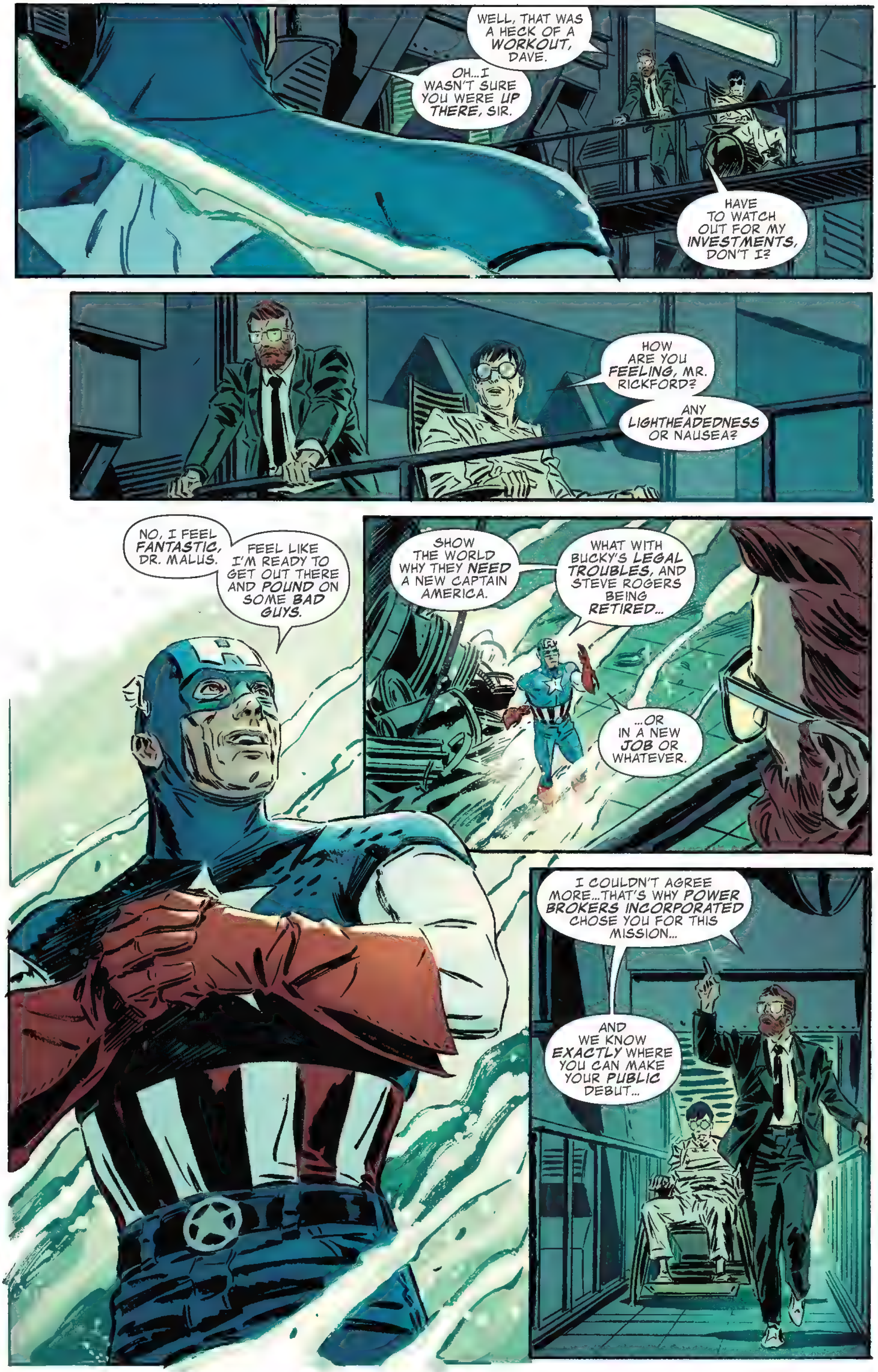
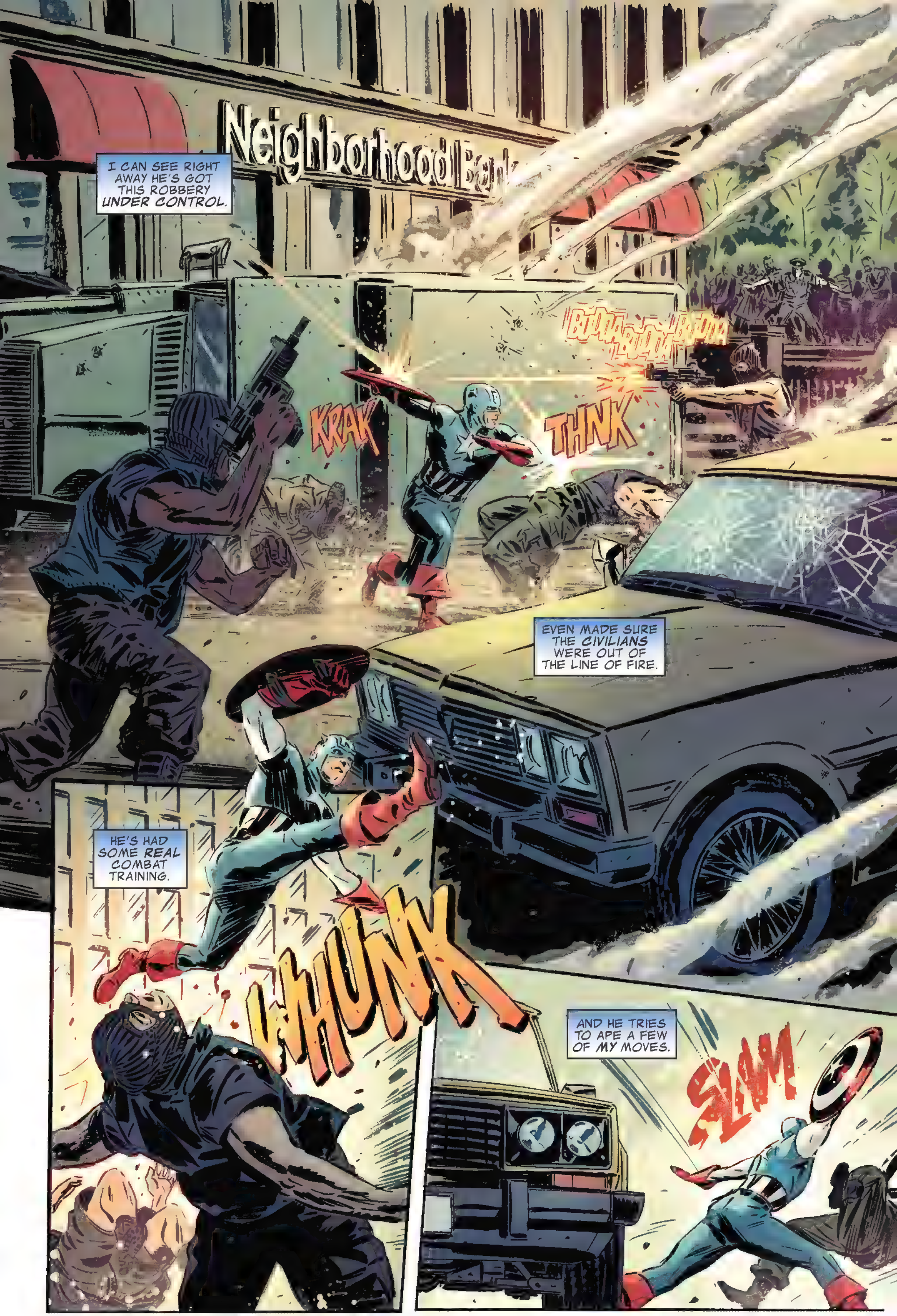
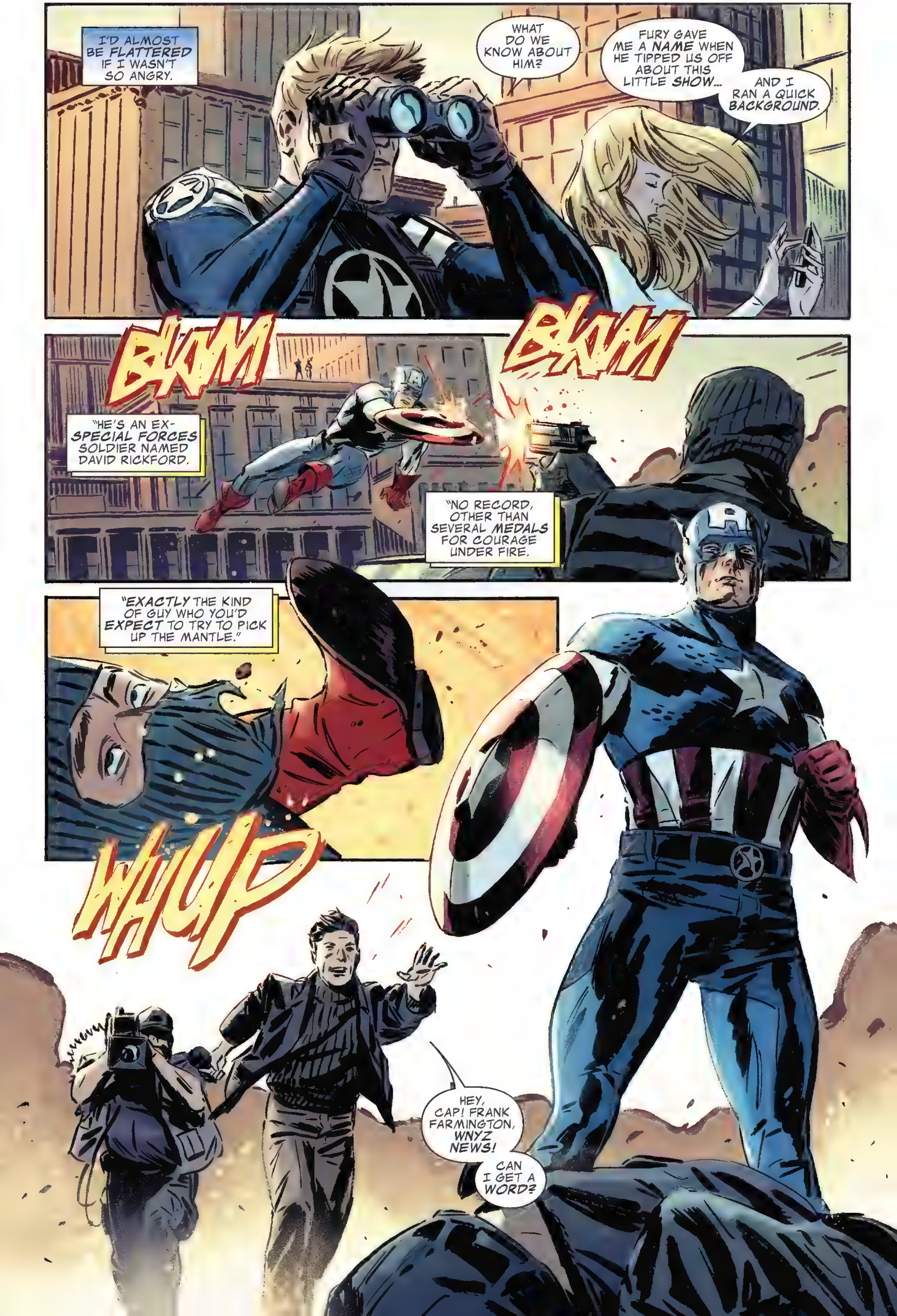

THIS WASN'T ALWAYS MY LIFE.
FILES AND REPORTS AND RESEARCH AND PLANS.
CURRENT LOCATIO
UNKNOWN
THREAT ASSESSMENTS AND ANALYSIS.
I HAVE TO STOP AND REMIND MYSELF SOMETIMES...
STEVE, I'M ON THE FLIGHT DECK, YOU READY?
BOOP
SCHUUUCK
ON MY WAY, SHARON...
...THAT THIS WASN'T ALWAYS MY LIFE.

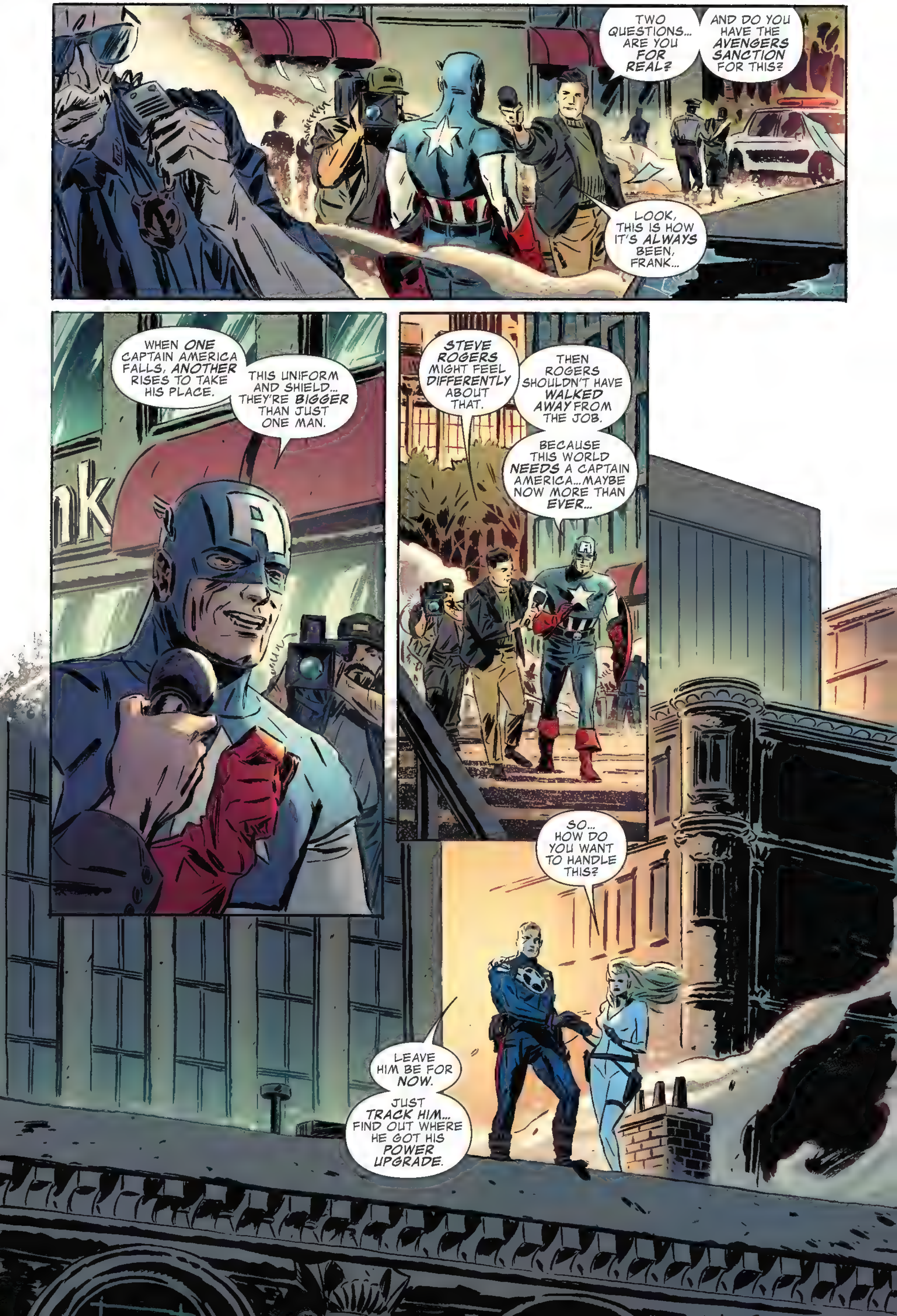

NO, MY PLACE USED TO BE IN THE FIELD.
CAPTAIN AMERICA... THE SUPER-SOLDIER.
DODGING GUNFIRE AND MORTARS.
STARING DOWN THE AXIS POWERS.
MAKING THE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY.
HARD TO BELIEVE THERE ARE TIMES I ACTUALLY MISS THOSE DARK DAYS.
AND EVEN HARDER TO BELIEVE THAT MY JOB IS BIGGER THAN THAT NOW.

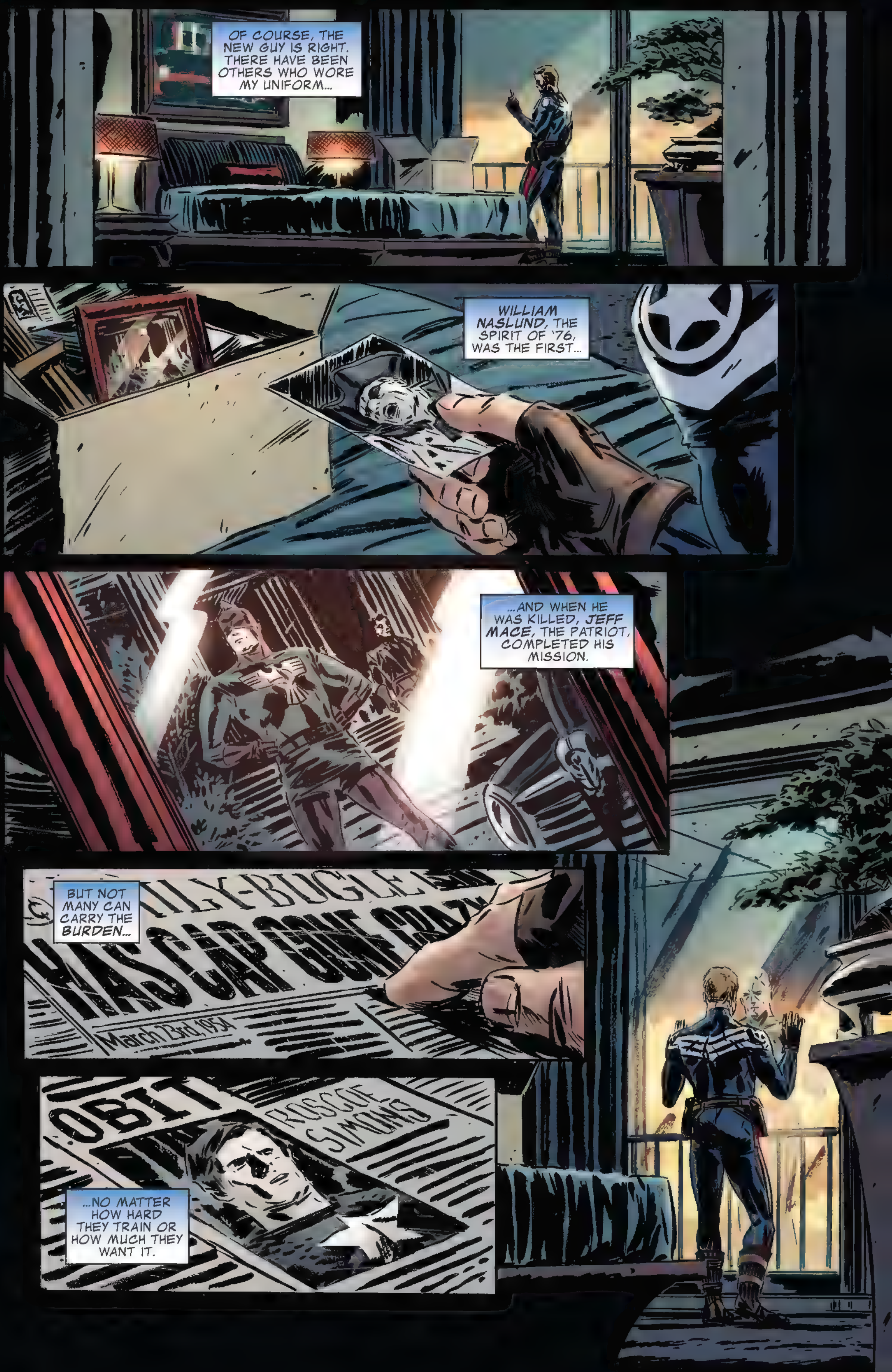

HOW ARE HIS *STATS* LOOKING, MALUS?
EXCELLENT. I THINK THIS ONE MIGHT ACTUALLY BE A *WORTHY* CANDIDATE.
THE PROCEDURE WENT *PERFECTLY...*
...AS YOU CAN SEE FOR *YOURSELF.*
IMPRESSIVE. AND HE'S AS STRONG AS *THE REAL THING?*
WHMP
THNK
"*STRONGER...* AND PROBABLY *TWICE* AS FAST."
DABUDDABUDDABUDDABUDDABUDDABUDDABUDDABUDDABUDDABUDD
"GOOD, THAT'S *EXACTLY* WHAT WE NEED."

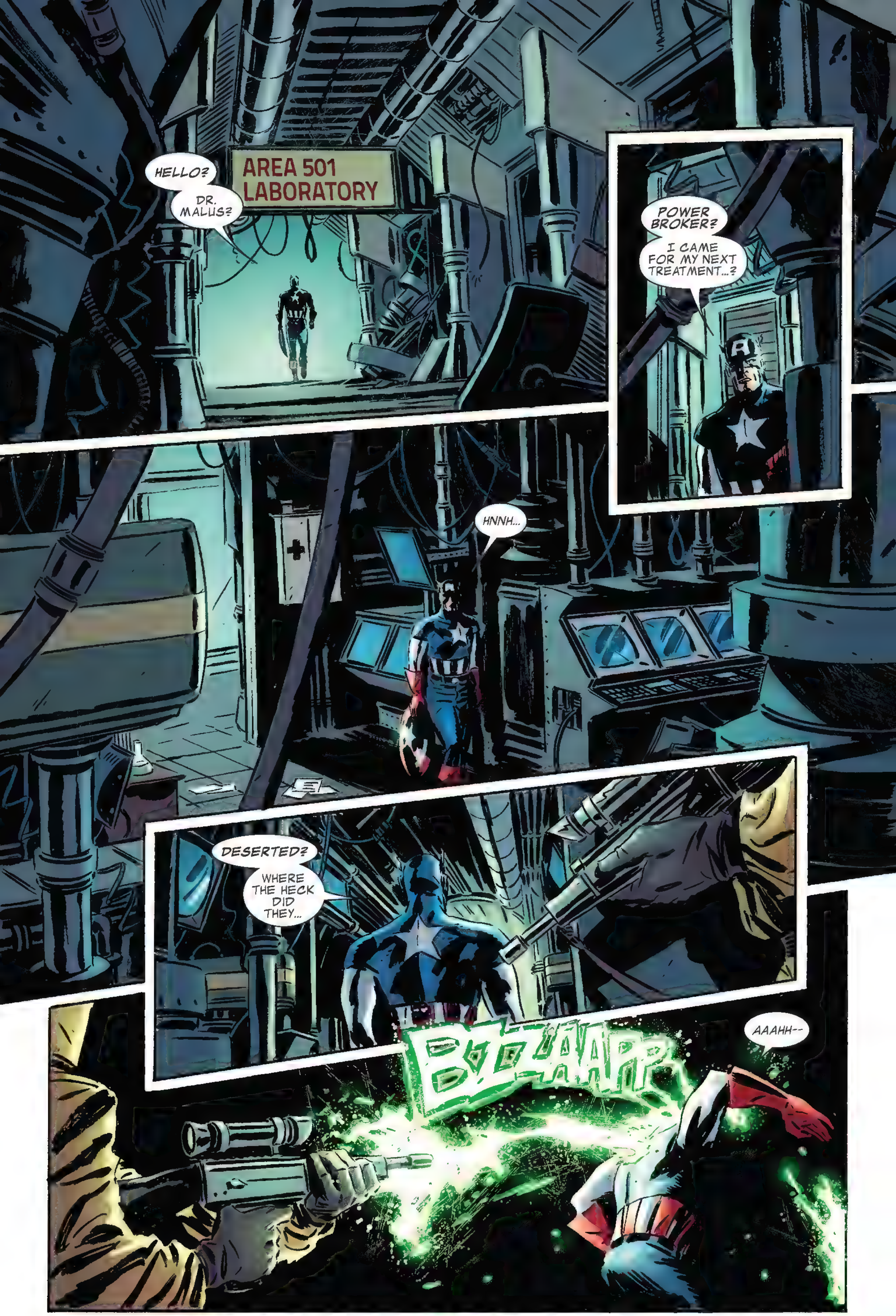

WELL, THAT WAS A HECK OF A WORKOUT, DAVE.
OH...I WASN'T SURE YOU WERE UP THERE, SIR.
HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR MY INVESTMENTS, DON'T I?
HOW ARE YOU FEELING, MR. RICKFORD?
ANY LIGHTHEADEDNESS OR NAUSEA?
NO, I FEEL FANTASTIC, DR. MALUS.
FEEL LIKE I'M READY TO GET OUT THERE AND POUND ON SOME BAD GUYS.
SHOW THE WORLD WHY THEY NEED A NEW CAPTAIN AMERICA.
WHAT WITH BUCKY'S LEGAL TROUBLES, AND STEVE ROGERS BEING RETIRED...
...OR IN A NEW JOB OR WHATEVER.
I COULDN'T AGREE MORE...THAT'S WHY POWER BROKERS INCORPORATED CHOSE YOU FOR THIS MISSION...
AND WE KNOW EXACTLY WHERE YOU CAN MAKE YOUR PUBLIC DEBUT...

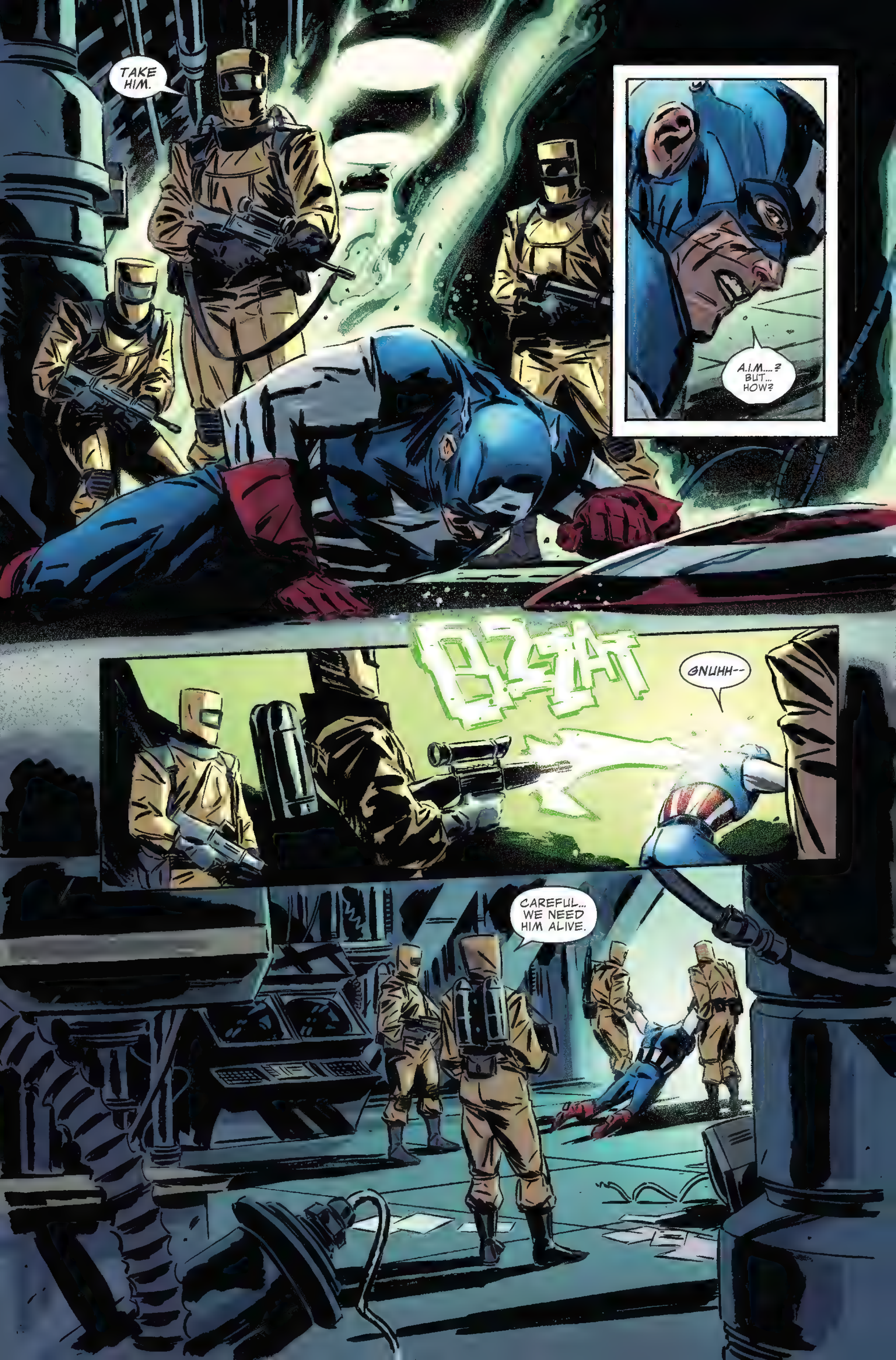

Neighborhood Bank
I CAN SEE RIGHT AWAY HE'S GOT THIS ROBBERY UNDER CONTROL.
BUDDABUDDABUDDA
KRAK
THNK
EVEN MADE SURE THE CIVILIANS WERE OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE.
HE'S HAD SOME REAL COMBAT TRAINING.
WHUNK
AND HE TRIES TO APE A FEW OF MY MOVES.
SLAM

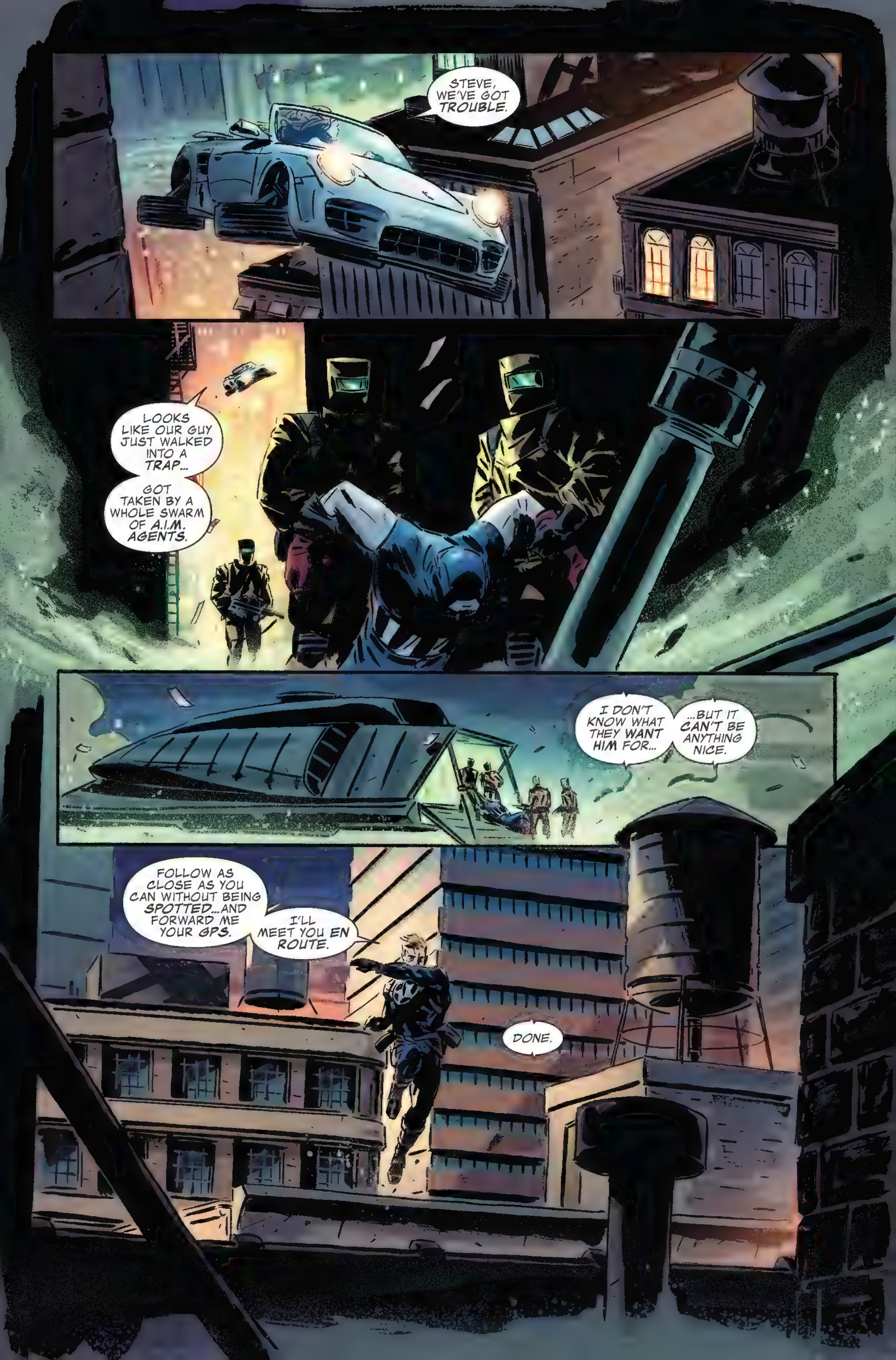

I'D ALMOST BE FLATTERED IF I WASN'T SO ANGRY.
WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT HIM?
FURY GAVE ME A NAME WHEN HE TIPPED US OFF ABOUT THIS LITTLE SHOW...
AND I RAN A QUICK BACKGROUND.
BLAM
BLAM
"HE'S AN EX-SPECIAL FORCES SOLDIER NAMED DAVID RICKFORD.
"NO RECORD, OTHER THAN SEVERAL MEDALS FOR COURAGE UNDER FIRE.
"EXACTLY THE KIND OF GUY WHO YOU'D EXPECT TO TRY TO PICK UP THE MANTLE."
WHUP
HEY, CAP! FRANK FARMINGTON, WNYZ NEWS!
CAN I GET A WORD?

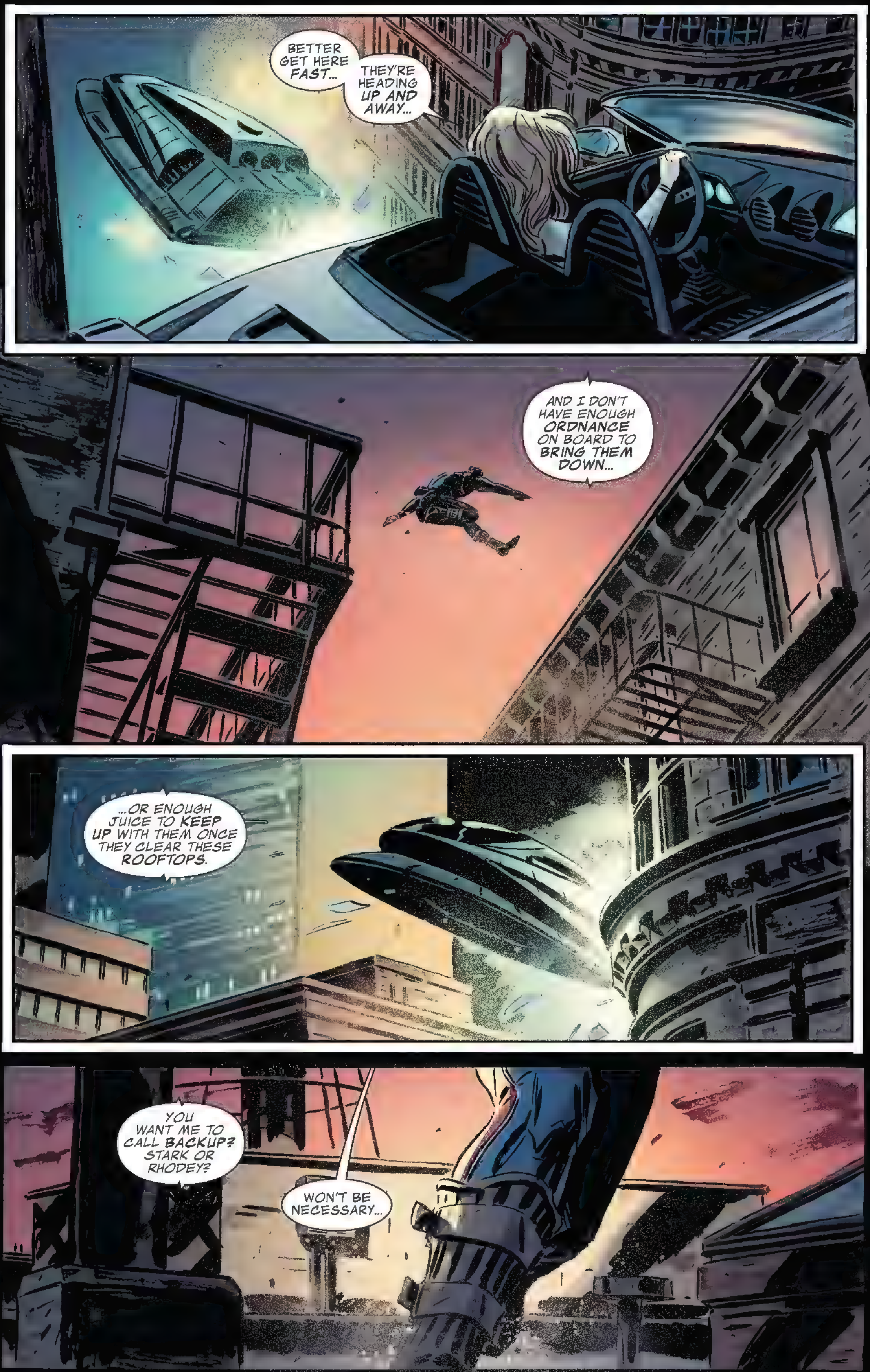

TWO QUESTIONS... ARE YOU *FOR REAL?*
AND DO YOU HAVE THE *AVENGERS SANCTION* FOR THIS?
LOOK, THIS IS HOW IT'S *ALWAYS* BEEN, FRANK...
WHEN *ONE* CAPTAIN AMERICA FALLS, *ANOTHER* RISES TO TAKE HIS PLACE.
THIS UNIFORM AND SHIELD... THEY'RE *BIGGER* THAN JUST ONE MAN.
STEVE ROGERS MIGHT FEEL *DIFFERENTLY* ABOUT THAT.
THEN ROGERS SHOULDN'T HAVE *WALKED AWAY* FROM THE JOB.
BECAUSE THIS WORLD *NEEDS* A CAPTAIN AMERICA...MAYBE NOW MORE THAN *EVER...*
SO... HOW DO YOU WANT TO HANDLE THIS?
LEAVE HIM BE FOR *NOW.*
JUST *TRACK HIM...* FIND OUT WHERE HE GOT HIS *POWER UPGRADE.*

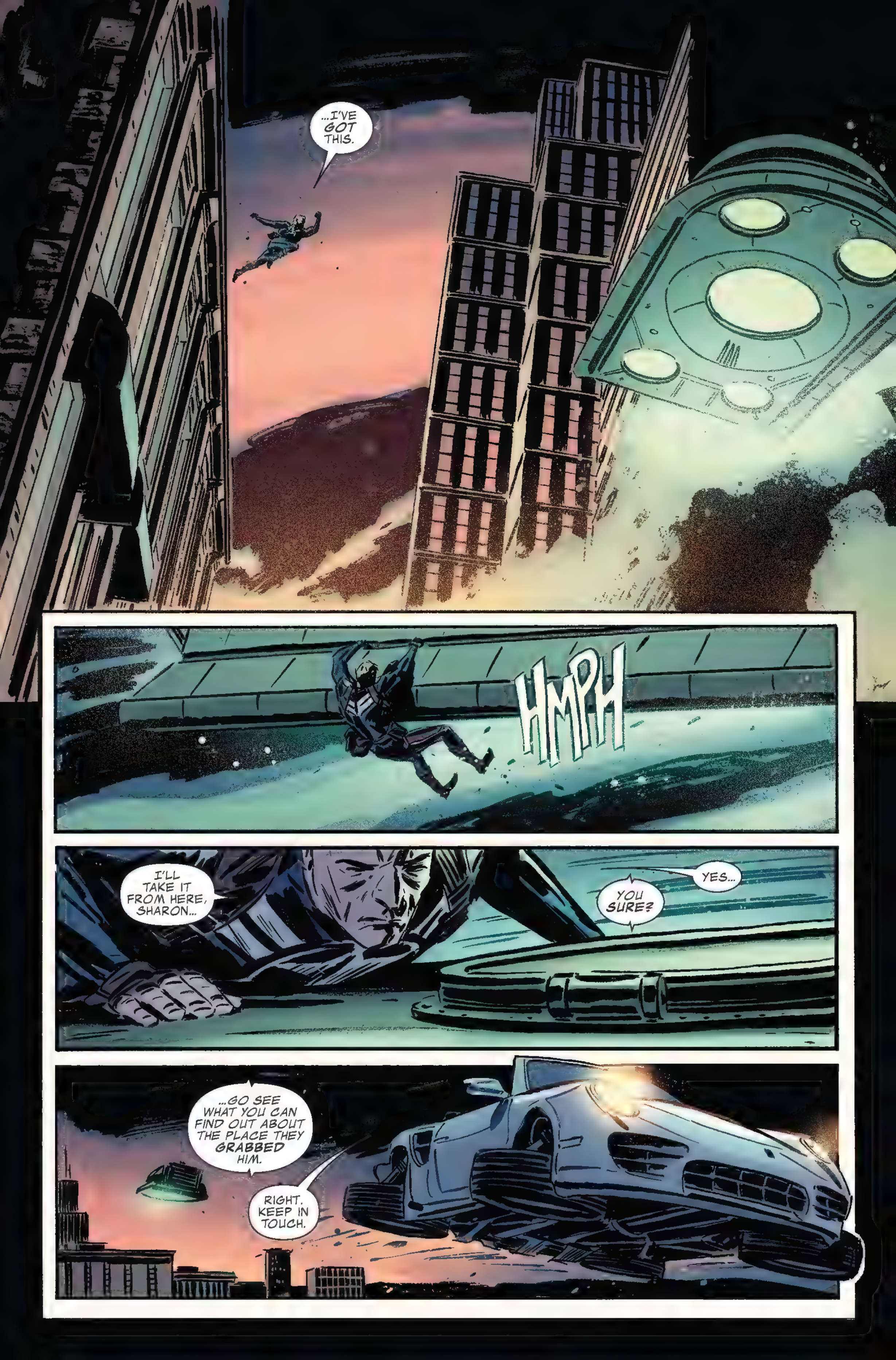

OF COURSE, THE NEW GUY IS RIGHT. THERE HAVE BEEN OTHERS WHO WORE MY UNIFORM...
WILLIAM NASLUND, THE SPIRIT OF '76, WAS THE FIRST...
...AND WHEN HE WAS KILLED, JEFF MACE, THE PATRIOT, COMPLETED HIS MISSION.
BUT NOT MANY CAN CARRY THE BURDEN...
ILY-BUGLE
HAS CAP GONE CRAZ
March 3rd, 1954
OBIT
ROSCOE SIMONS
...NO MATTER HOW HARD THEY TRAIN OR HOW MUCH THEY WANT IT.

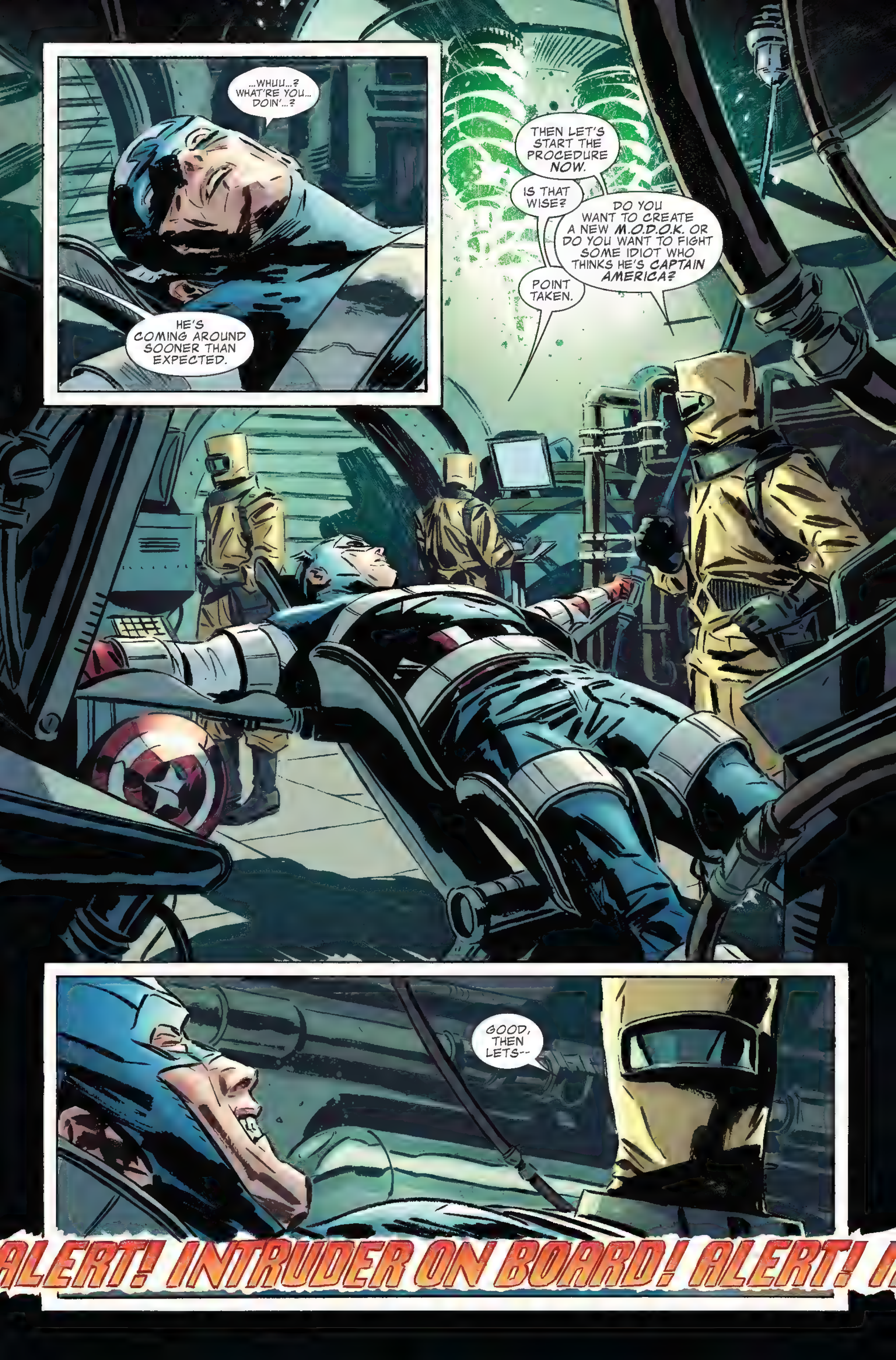

HELLO?
DR. MALUS?
AREA 501 LABORATORY
POWER BROKER?
I CAME FOR MY NEXT TREATMENT...?
HNNH...
DESERTED?
WHERE THE HECK DID THEY...
BZZAAPP
AAAHH--

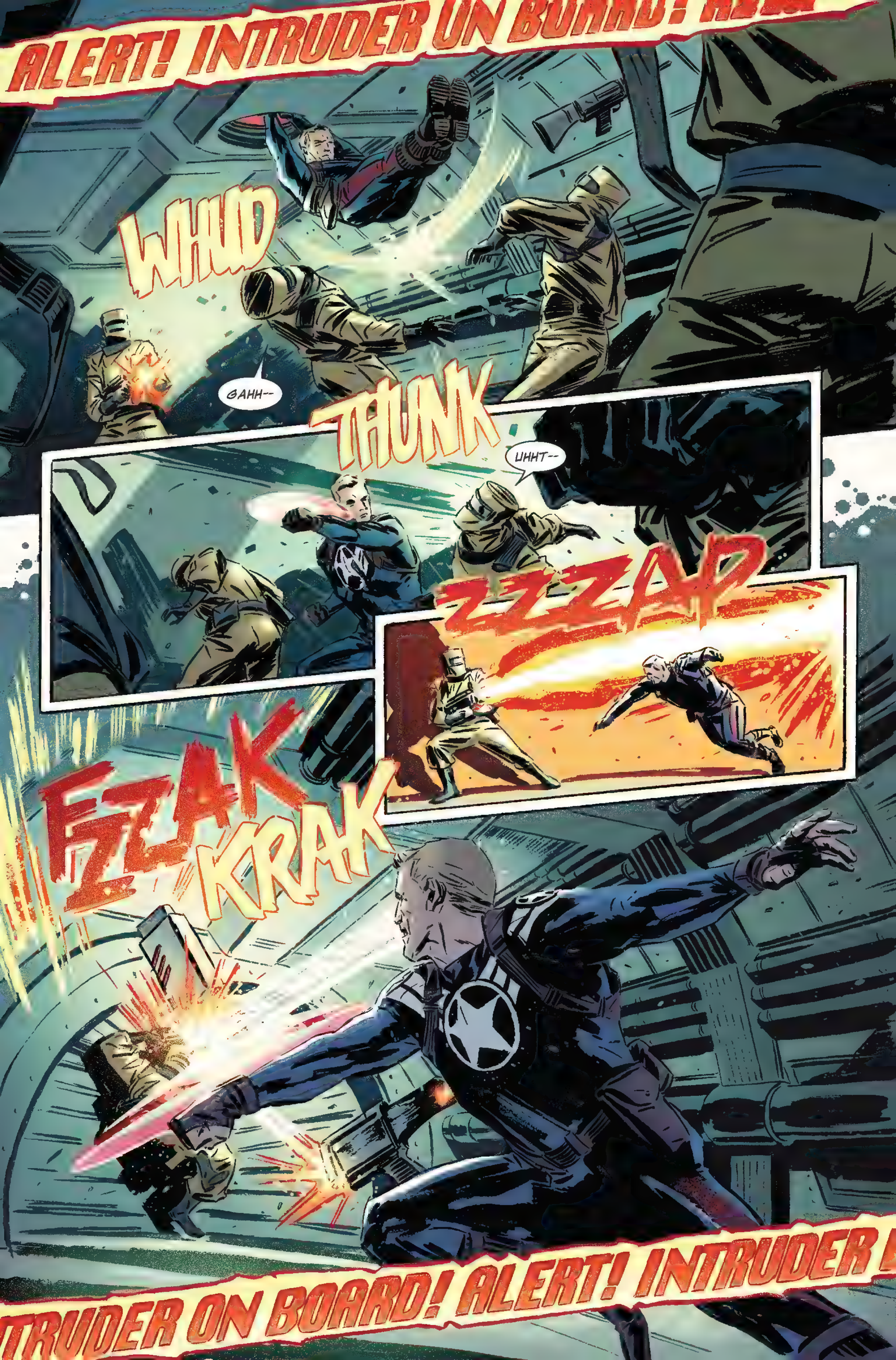

TAKE HIM.
A.I.M....? BUT... HOW?
BZZAT
GNUHH--
CAREFUL... WE NEED HIM ALIVE.

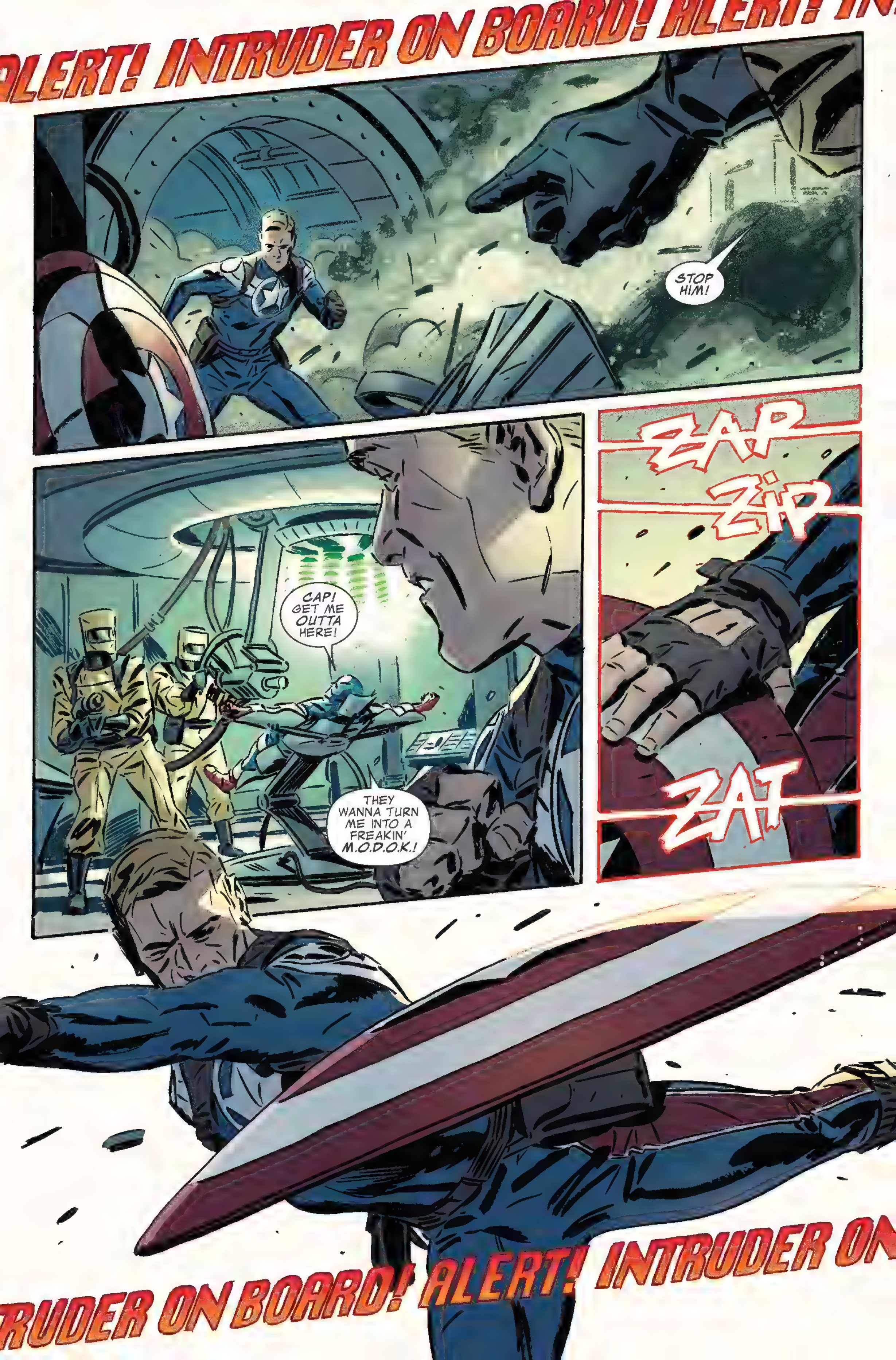

STEVE, WE'VE GOT TROUBLE.
LOOKS LIKE OUR GUY JUST WALKED INTO A TRAP...
GOT TAKEN BY A WHOLE SWARM OF A.I.M. AGENTS.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY WANT HIM FOR...
...BUT IT CAN'T BE ANYTHING NICE.
FOLLOW AS CLOSE AS YOU CAN WITHOUT BEING SPOTTED...AND FORWARD ME YOUR GPS.
I'LL MEET YOU EN ROUTE.
DONE.

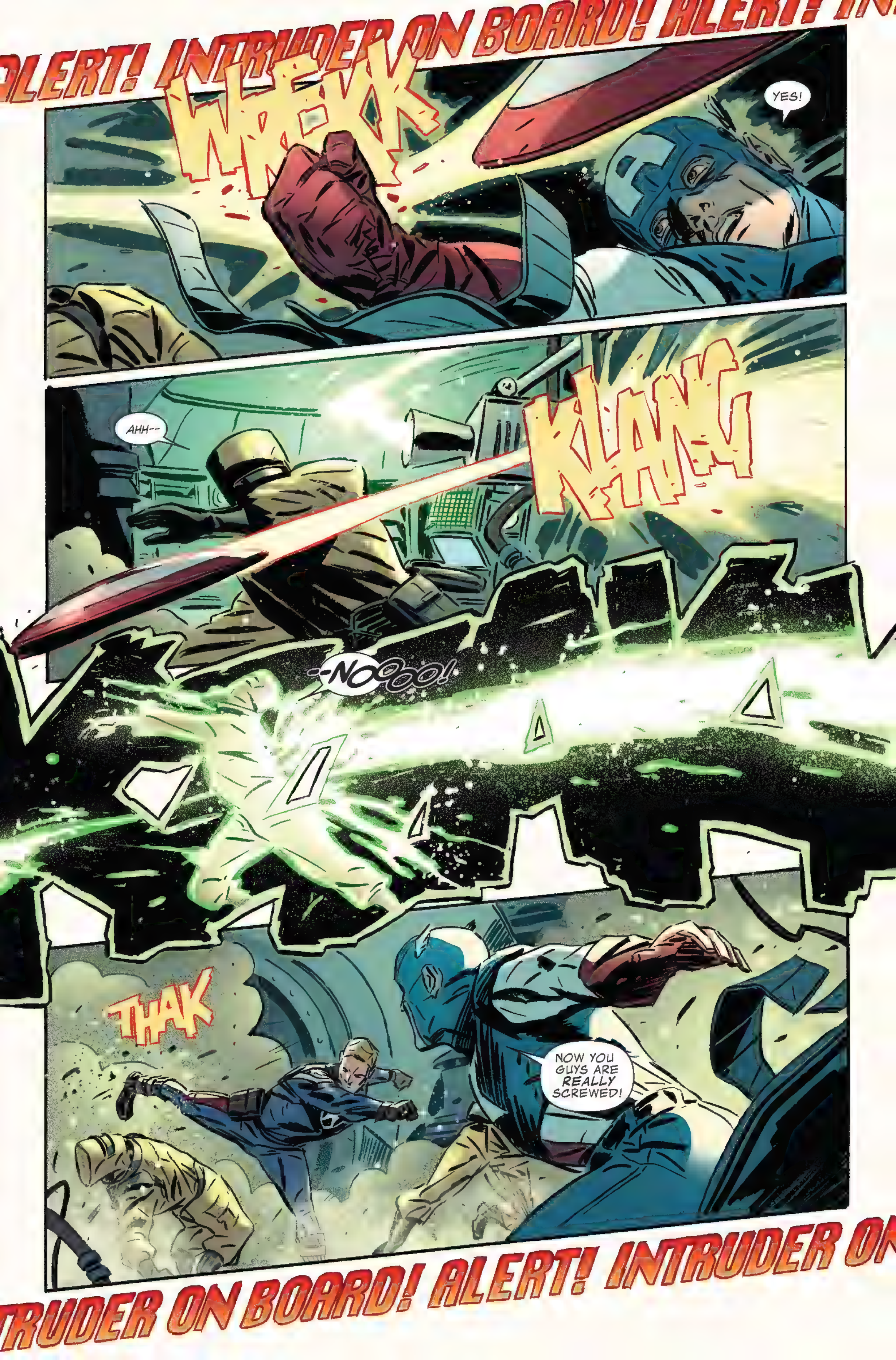

BETTER GET HERE FAST...
THEY'RE HEADING UP AND AWAY...
AND I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH ORDNANCE ON BOARD TO BRING THEM DOWN...
...OR ENOUGH JUICE TO KEEP UP WITH THEM ONCE THEY CLEAR THESE ROOFTOPS.
YOU WANT ME TO CALL BACKUP? STARK OR RHODEY?
WON'T BE NECESSARY...

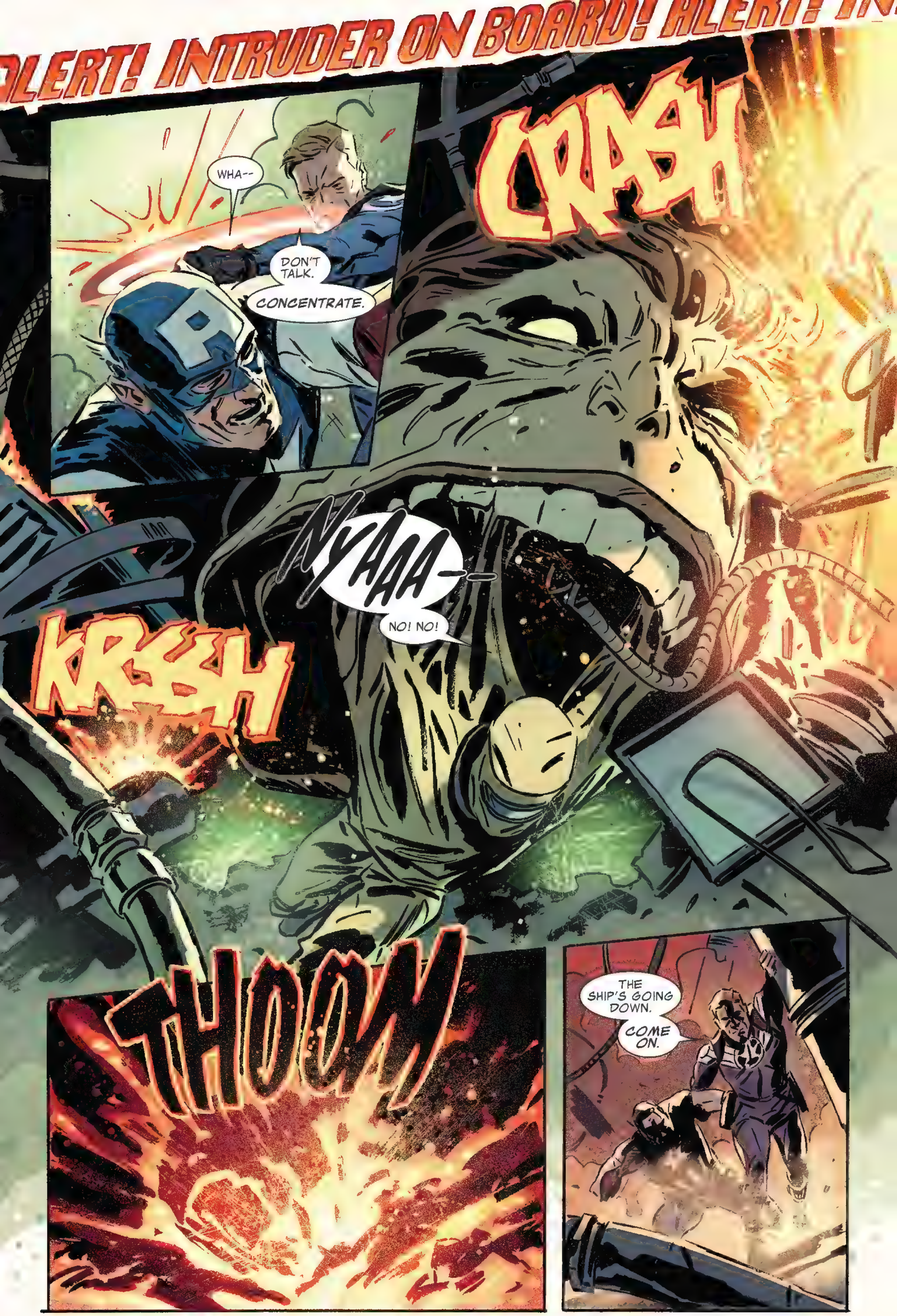

...I'VE GOT THIS.
HMPH
I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE, SHARON...
YOU SURE?
YES...
...GO SEE WHAT YOU CAN FIND OUT ABOUT THE PLACE THEY GRABBED HIM.
RIGHT. KEEP IN TOUCH.

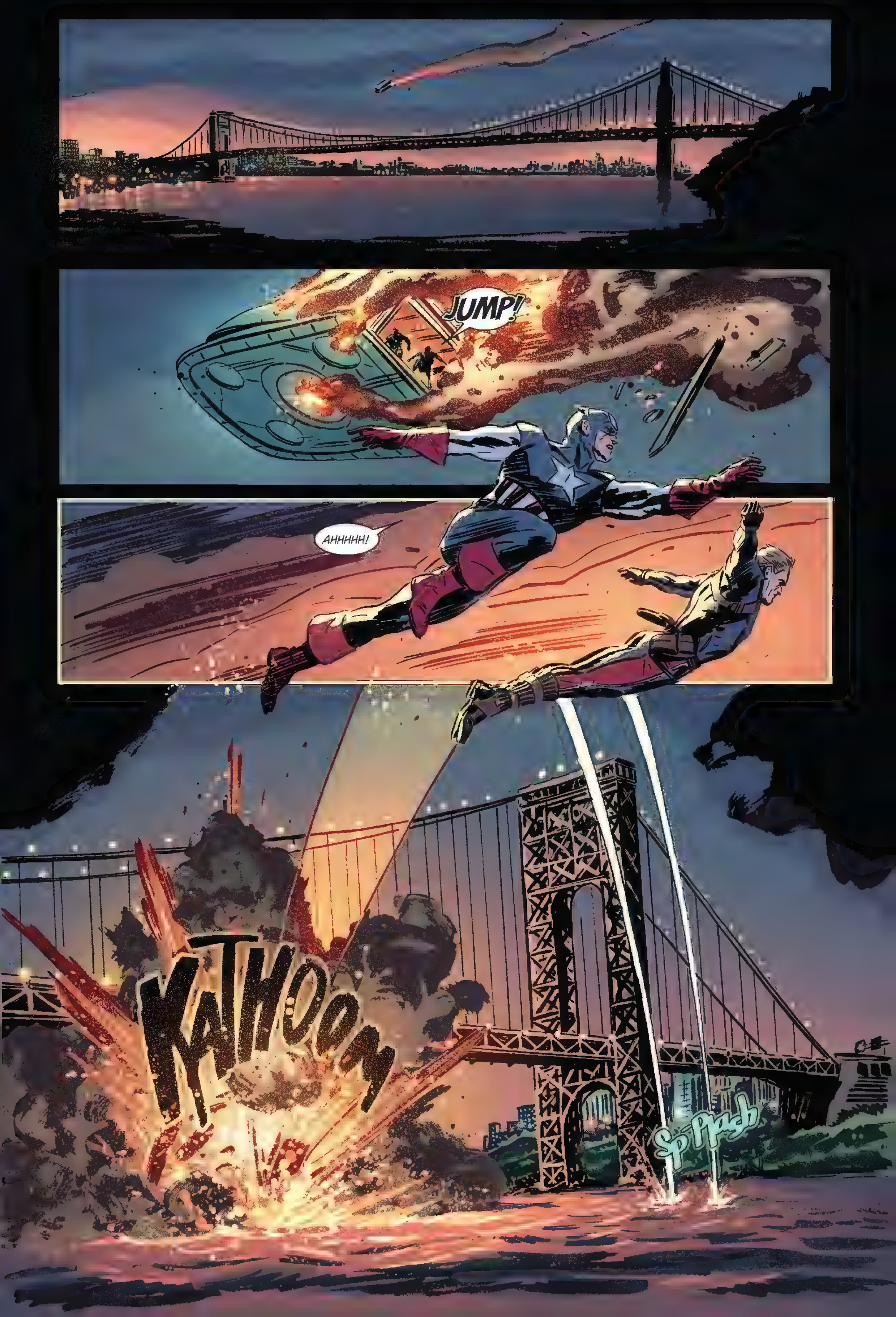

...WHUU...? WHAT'RE YOU... DOIN'...?
HE'S COMING AROUND SOONER THAN EXPECTED.
THEN LET'S START THE PROCEDURE NOW.
IS THAT WISE?
DO YOU WANT TO CREATE A NEW M.O.D.O.K. OR DO YOU WANT TO FIGHT SOME IDIOT WHO THINKS HE'S CAPTAIN AMERICA?
POINT TAKEN.
GOOD, THEN LETS--
ALERT! INTRUDER ON BOARD! ALERT!

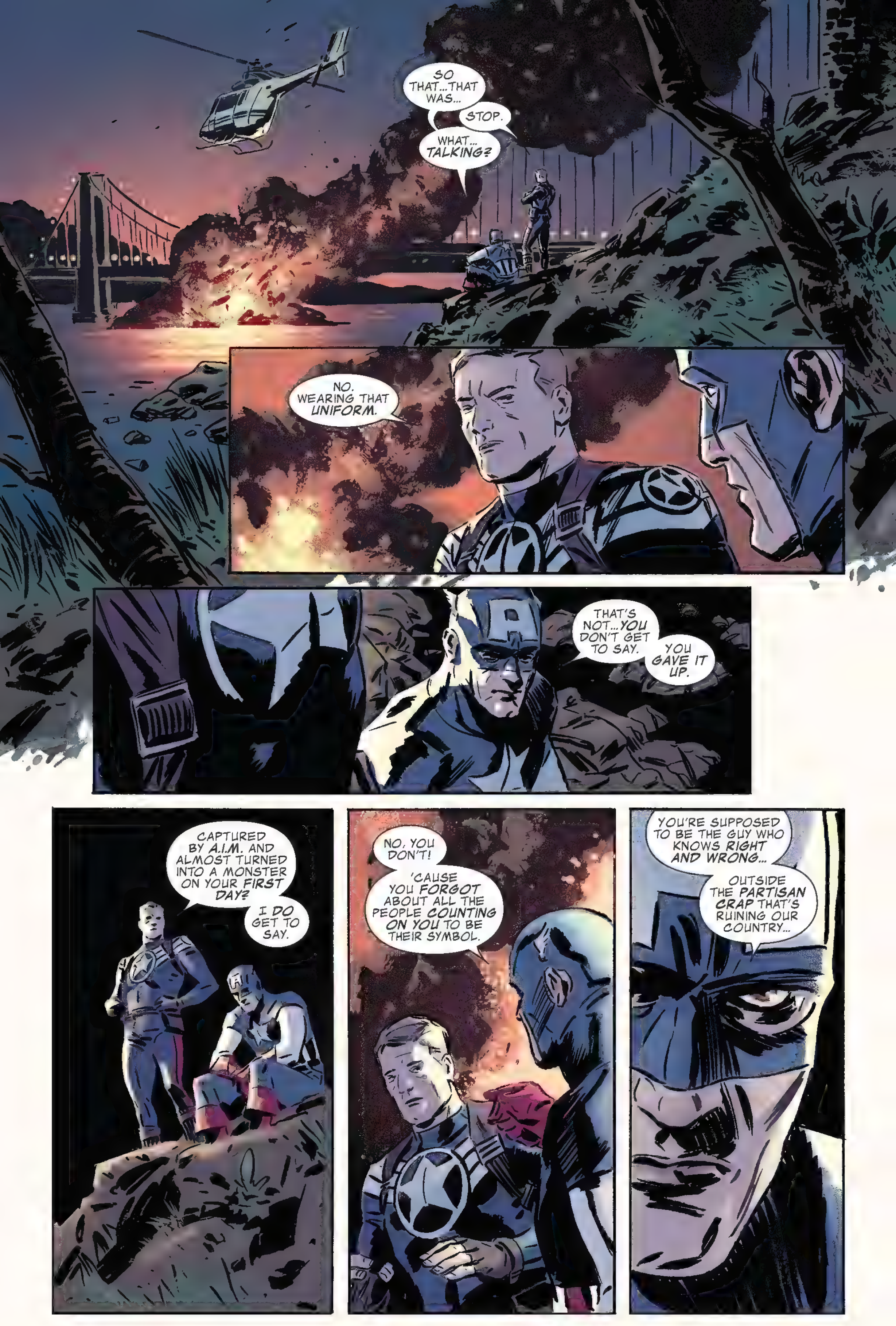

ALERT! INTRUDER ON BOARD! AL
WHUD
GAHH--
THUNK
UHHT--
ZZZAP
FZZAK
KRAK
TRUDER ON BOARD! ALERT! INTRUDER

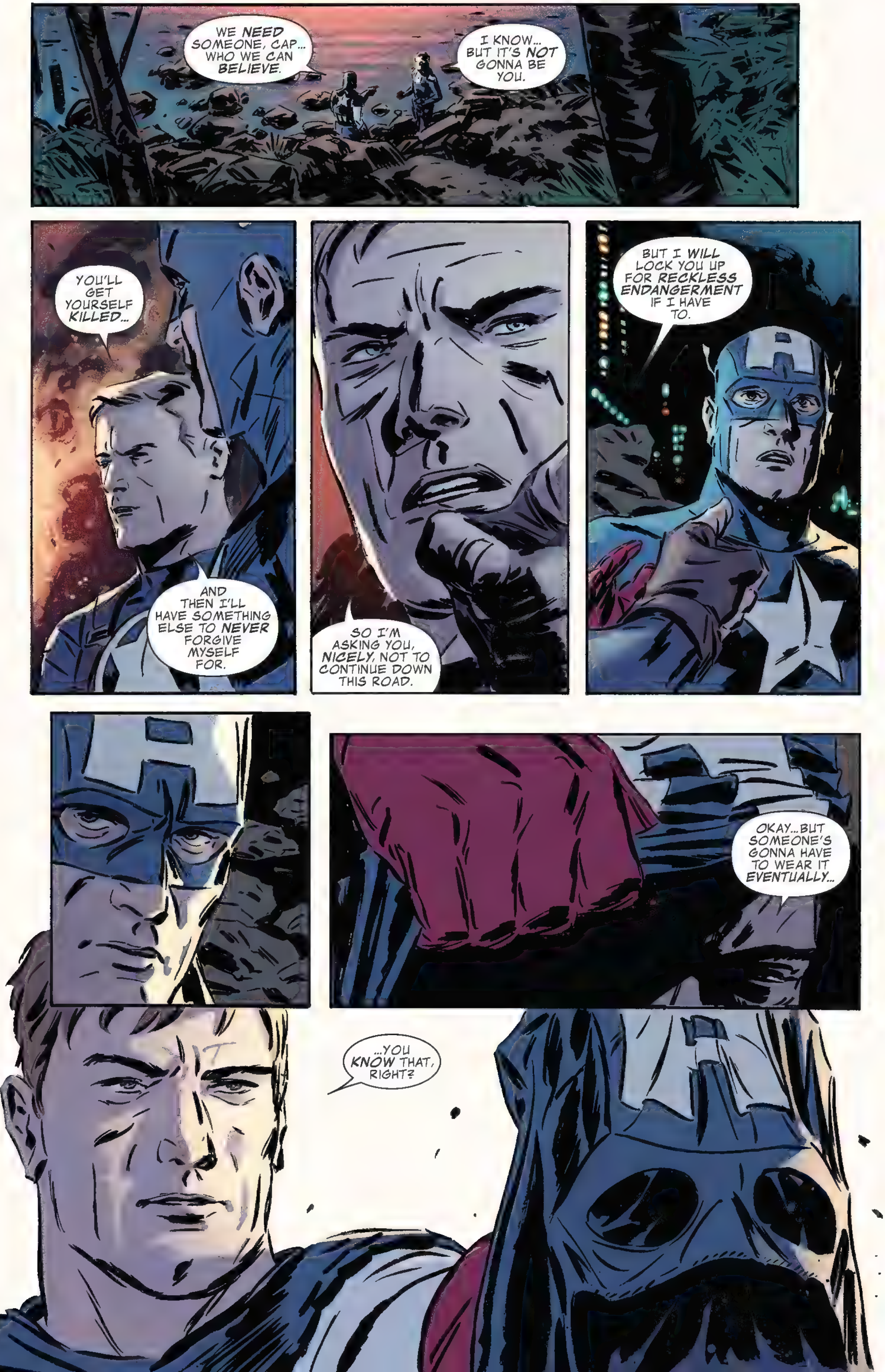

LERT! INTRUDER ON BOARD! ALERT! IN
STOP HIM!
CAP! GET ME OUTTA HERE!
THEY WANNA TURN ME INTO A FREAKIN' M.O.D.O.K.!
ZAP
ZIP
ZAT
RUDER ON BOARD! ALERT! INTRUDER ON

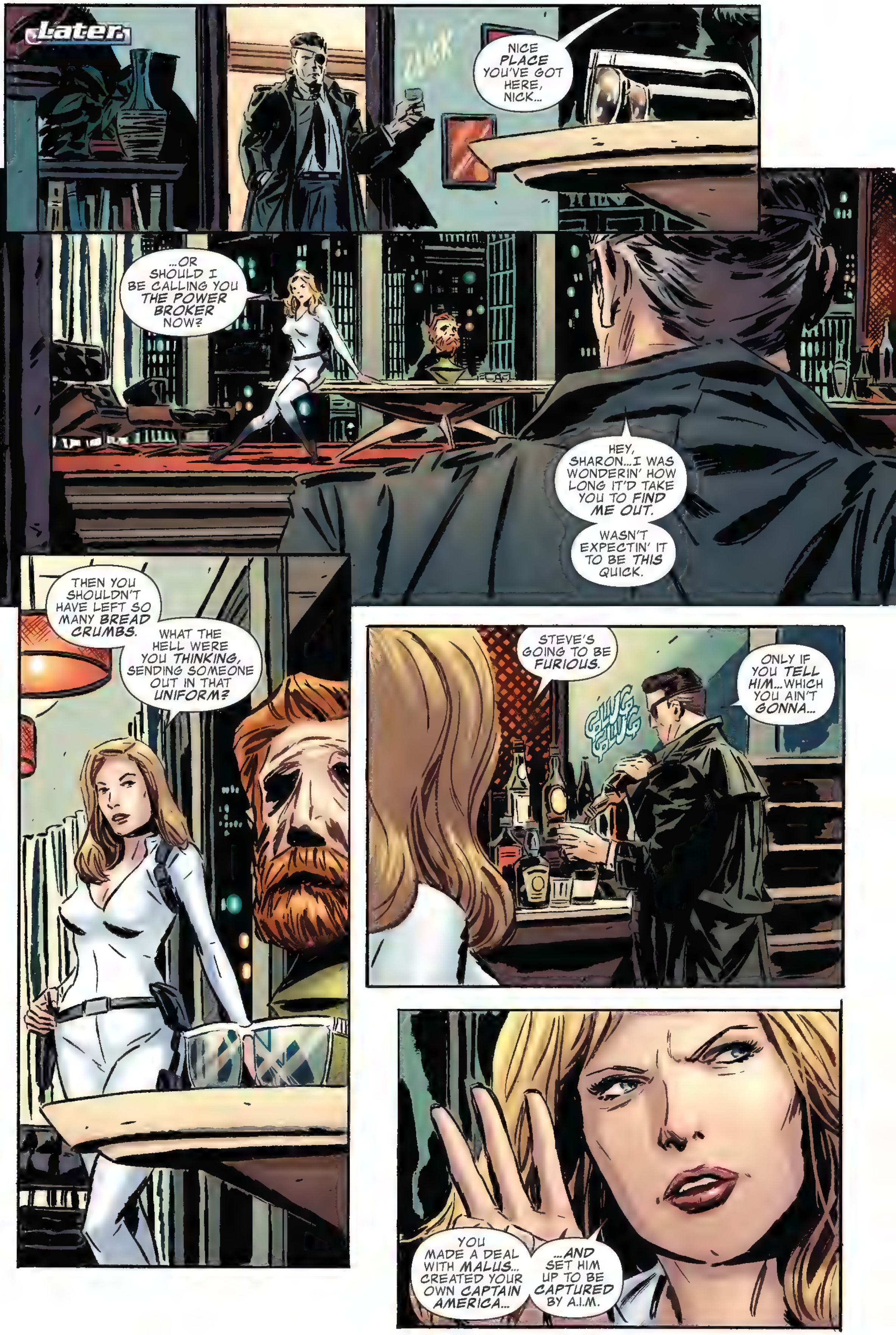

LERT! INTRUDER ON BOARD! ALERT! IN
WREKK
YES!
AHH--
KLANG
-NOOooo!
THAK
NOW YOU GUYS ARE *REALLY* SCREWED!
TRUDER ON BOARD! ALERT! INTRUDER ON

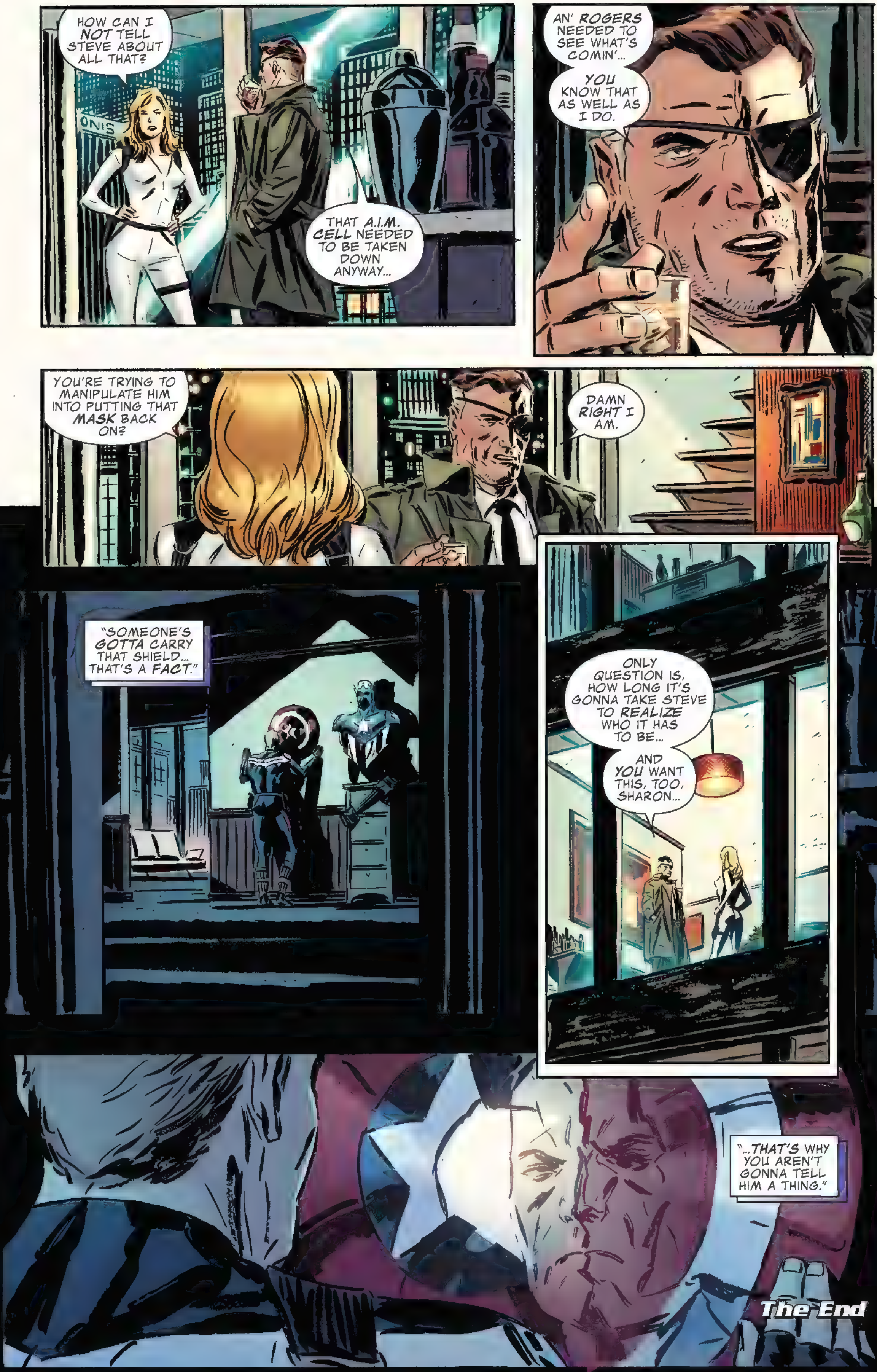

LERT! INTRUDER ON BOARD! ALERT! IN
WHA--
DON'T TALK.
CONCENTRATE.
CRASH
NYAAA--
NO! NO!
KRSH
THOOM
THE SHIP'S GOING DOWN.
COME ON.

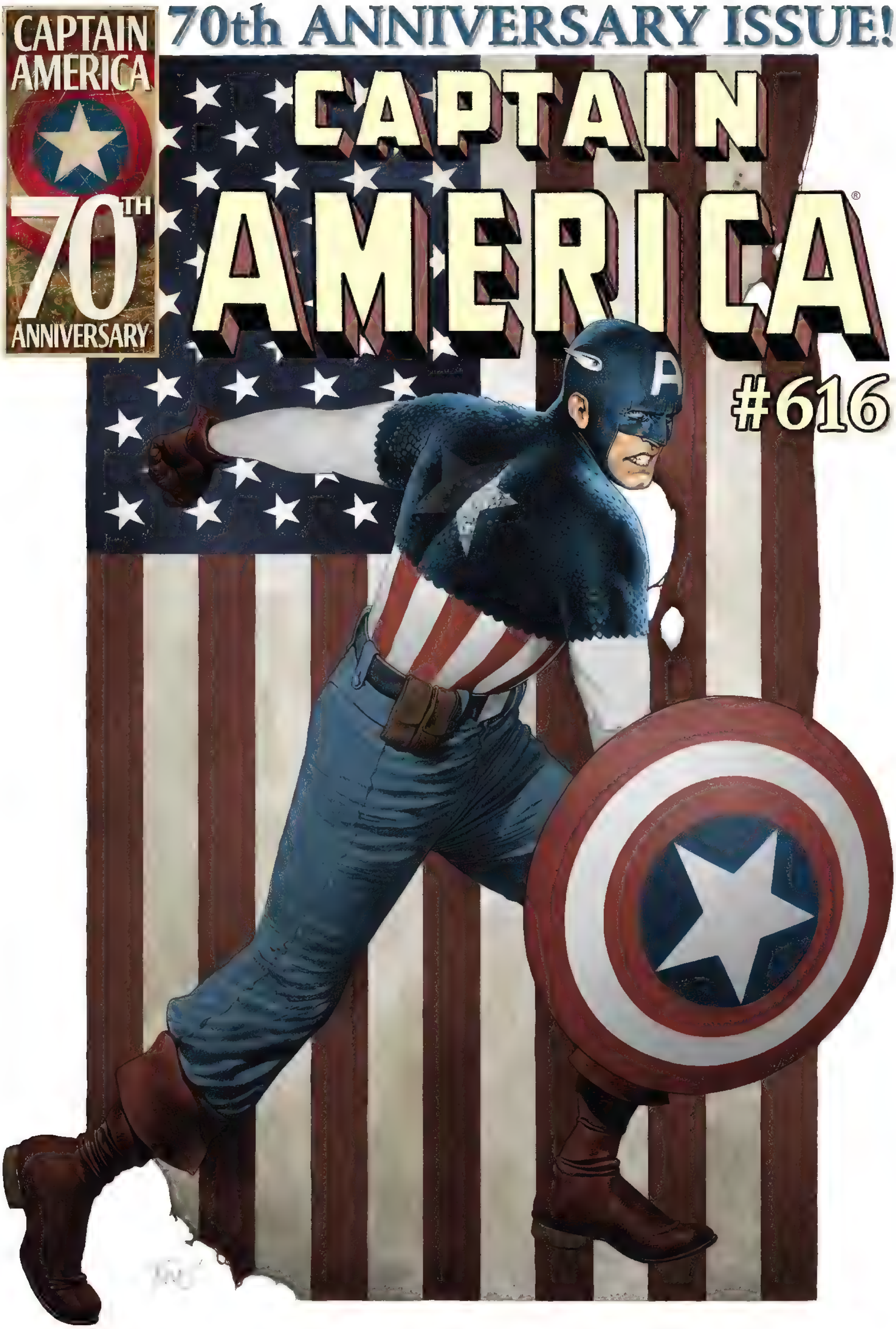

JUMP!
AHHHHH!
KATHOOM
Sp-plash


SO THAT...THAT WAS...
STOP.
WHAT... TALKING?
NO. WEARING THAT UNIFORM.
THAT'S NOT...YOU DON'T GET TO SAY.
YOU GAVE IT UP.
CAPTURED BY A.I.M. AND ALMOST TURNED INTO A MONSTER ON YOUR FIRST DAY?
I DO GET TO SAY.
NO, YOU DON'T!
'CAUSE YOU FORGOT ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE COUNTING ON YOU TO BE THEIR SYMBOL.
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE GUY WHO KNOWS RIGHT AND WRONG...
OUTSIDE THE PARTISAN CRAP THAT'S RUINING OUR COUNTRY...


WE NEED SOMEONE, CAP... WHO WE CAN BELIEVE.
I KNOW... BUT IT'S NOT GONNA BE YOU.
YOU'LL GET YOURSELF KILLED...
AND THEN I'LL HAVE SOMETHING ELSE TO NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF FOR.
SO I'M ASKING YOU, NICELY, NOT TO CONTINUE DOWN THIS ROAD.
BUT I WILL LOCK YOU UP FOR RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT IF I HAVE TO.
OKAY...BUT SOMEONE'S GONNA HAVE TO WEAR IT EVENTUALLY...
...YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?


Later.
CLICK
NICE PLACE YOU'VE GOT HERE, NICK...
...OR SHOULD I BE CALLING YOU THE POWER BROKER NOW?
HEY, SHARON...I WAS WONDERIN' HOW LONG IT'D TAKE YOU TO FIND ME OUT.
WASN'T EXPECTIN' IT TO BE THIS QUICK.
THEN YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE LEFT SO MANY BREAD CRUMBS.
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU THINKING, SENDING SOMEONE OUT IN THAT UNIFORM?
STEVE'S GOING TO BE FURIOUS.
ONLY IF YOU TELL HIM...WHICH YOU AIN'T GONNA...
GLUG GLUG
YOU MADE A DEAL WITH MALUS... CREATED YOUR OWN CAPTAIN AMERICA...
...AND SET HIM UP TO BE CAPTURED BY A.I.M.


HOW CAN I *NOT* TELL STEVE ABOUT ALL THAT?
ONIS
THAT *A.I.M. CELL* NEEDED TO BE TAKEN DOWN ANYWAY...
AN' *ROGERS* NEEDED TO SEE WHAT'S COMIN'...
YOU KNOW THAT AS WELL AS I DO.
YOU'RE TRYING TO MANIPULATE HIM INTO PUTTING THAT *MASK* BACK ON?
DAMN *RIGHT* I AM.
"SOMEONE'S *GOTTA* CARRY THAT SHIELD... THAT'S A *FACT*."
ONLY QUESTION IS, HOW LONG IT'S GONNA TAKE STEVE TO *REALIZE* WHO IT HAS TO BE...
AND *YOU* WANT THIS, TOO, SHARON...
"...*THAT'S* WHY YOU AREN'T GONNA TELL HIM A THING."
The End


CAPTAIN AMERICA 70TH ANNIVERSARY
70th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!
CAPTAIN AMERICA®
#616

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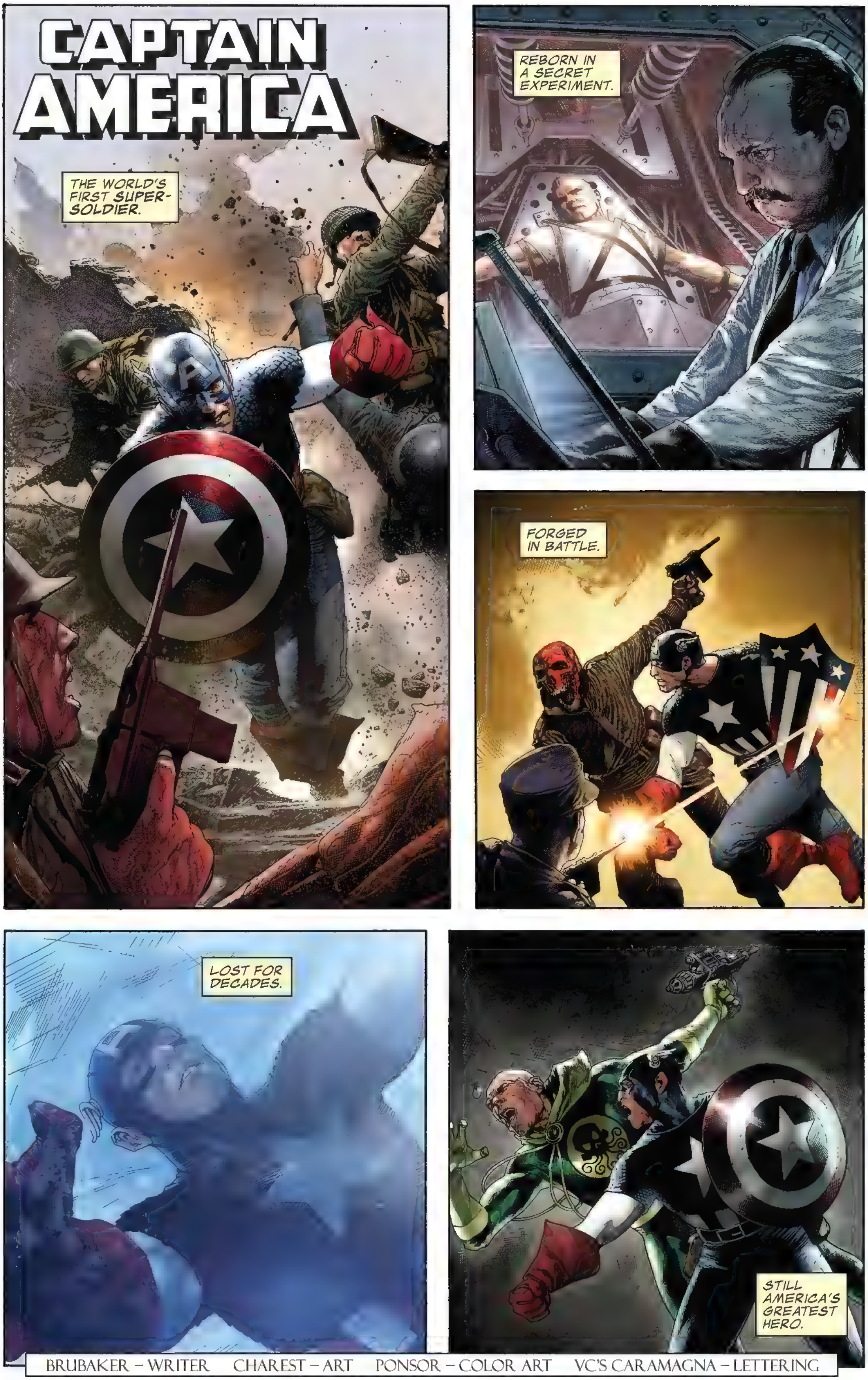
CAPTAIN AMERICA
THE WORLD'S FIRST SUPER-SOLDIER.
REBORN IN A SECRET EXPERIMENT.
FORGED IN BATTLE.
LOST FOR DECADES.
STILL AMERICA'S GREATEST HERO.

BRUBAKER – WRITER CHAREST – ART PONSOR – COLOR ART VC'S CARAMAGNA – LETTERING

70th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!

CAPTAIN AMERICA

ORIGIN

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ARTIST: TRAVIS CHAREST
COLOR ARTIST:
JUSTIN PONSOR

GULAG part 1

WRITER: ED BRUBAKER
ARTIST: MIKE DEODATO
COLOR ARTIST:
RAIN BEREDO

MUST THERE BE A CAPTAIN AMERICA?

WRITER: ED BRUBAKER
PENCILER: ED McGUINNESS
INKERS: DEXTER VINES
with ED McGUINNESS
COLORIST: VAL STAPLES

OPAQUE SHADOWS

WRITER/ARTIST:
HOWARD CHAYKIN
COLOR ARTIST:
EDGAR DELGADO

SPIN

WRITER: CULLEN BUNN
ARTIST: JASON LATOUR
COLOR ARTIST:
RICO RENZI

OPERATION: TOOTH FAIRY

WRITER: MIKE BENSON
ARTIST: PAUL GRIST
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ARTIST: PAUL AZACETA
COLOR ARTIST:
MATTHEW WILSON

CROSSFIRE

WRITER: KYLE HIGGINS
& ALEC SIEGEL
ARTIST: PEPE LARRAZ
COLOR ARTIST:
CHRIS SOTOMAYOR

CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED
by JOE SIMON and JACK KIRBY

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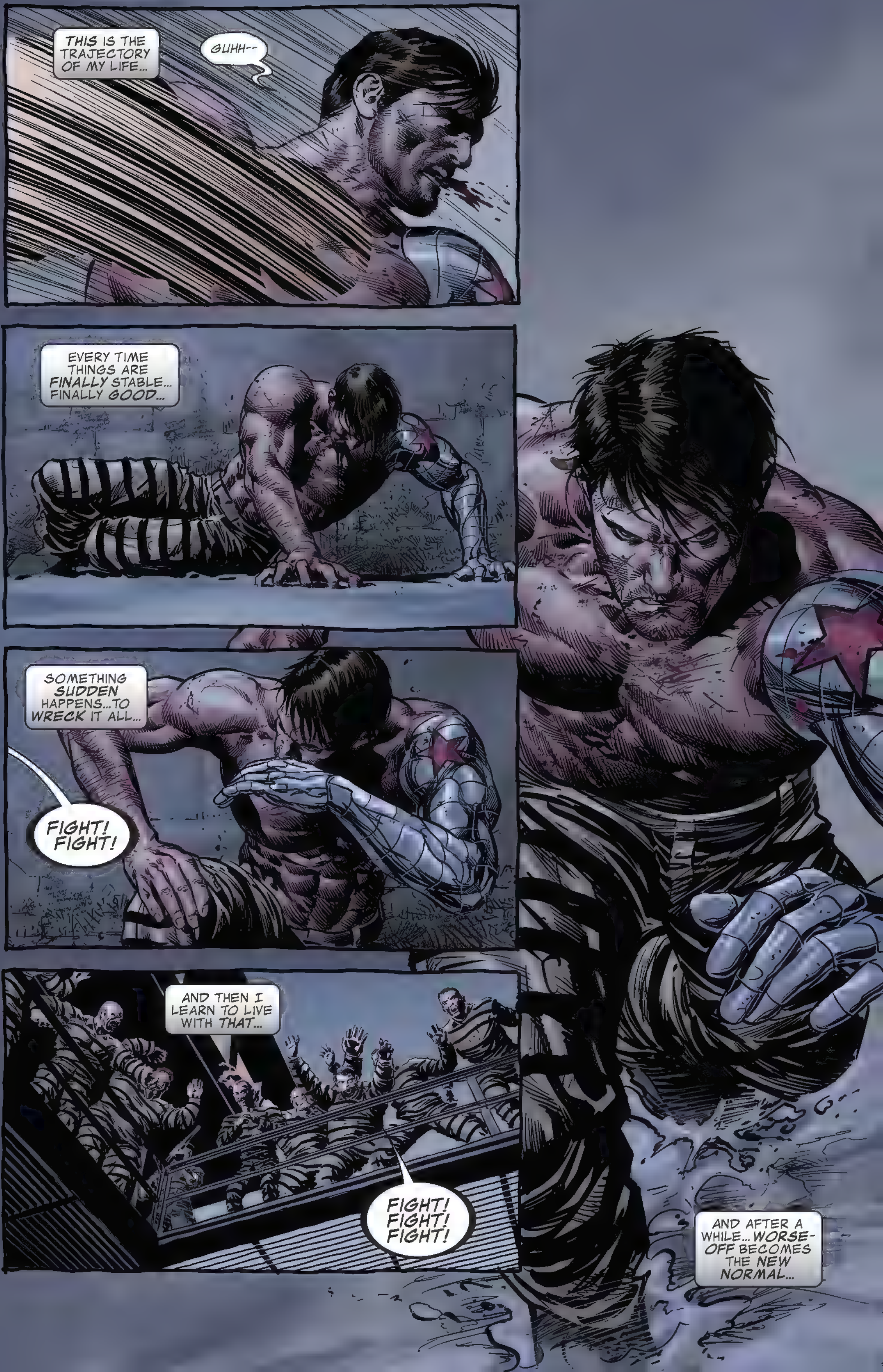
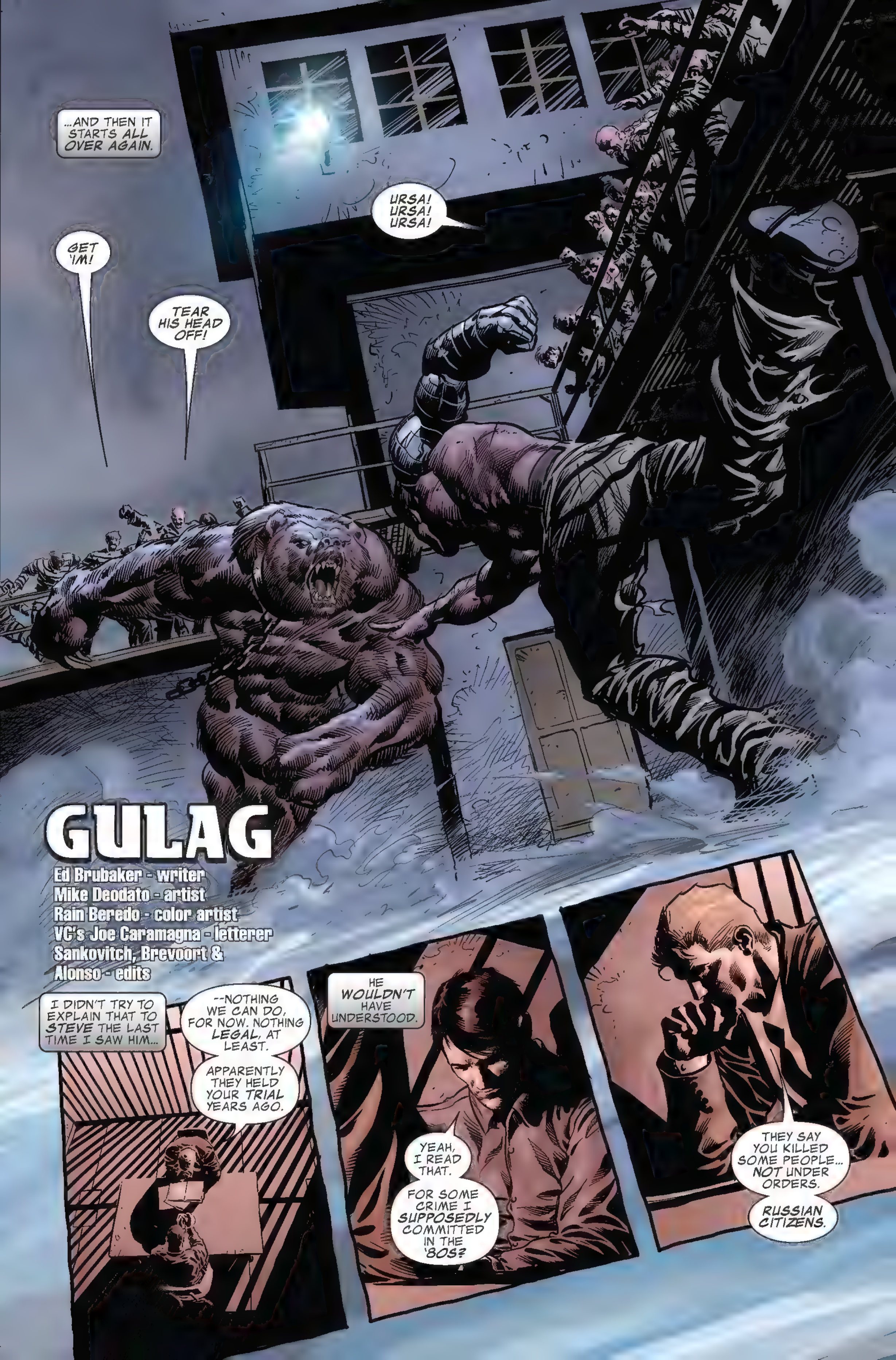
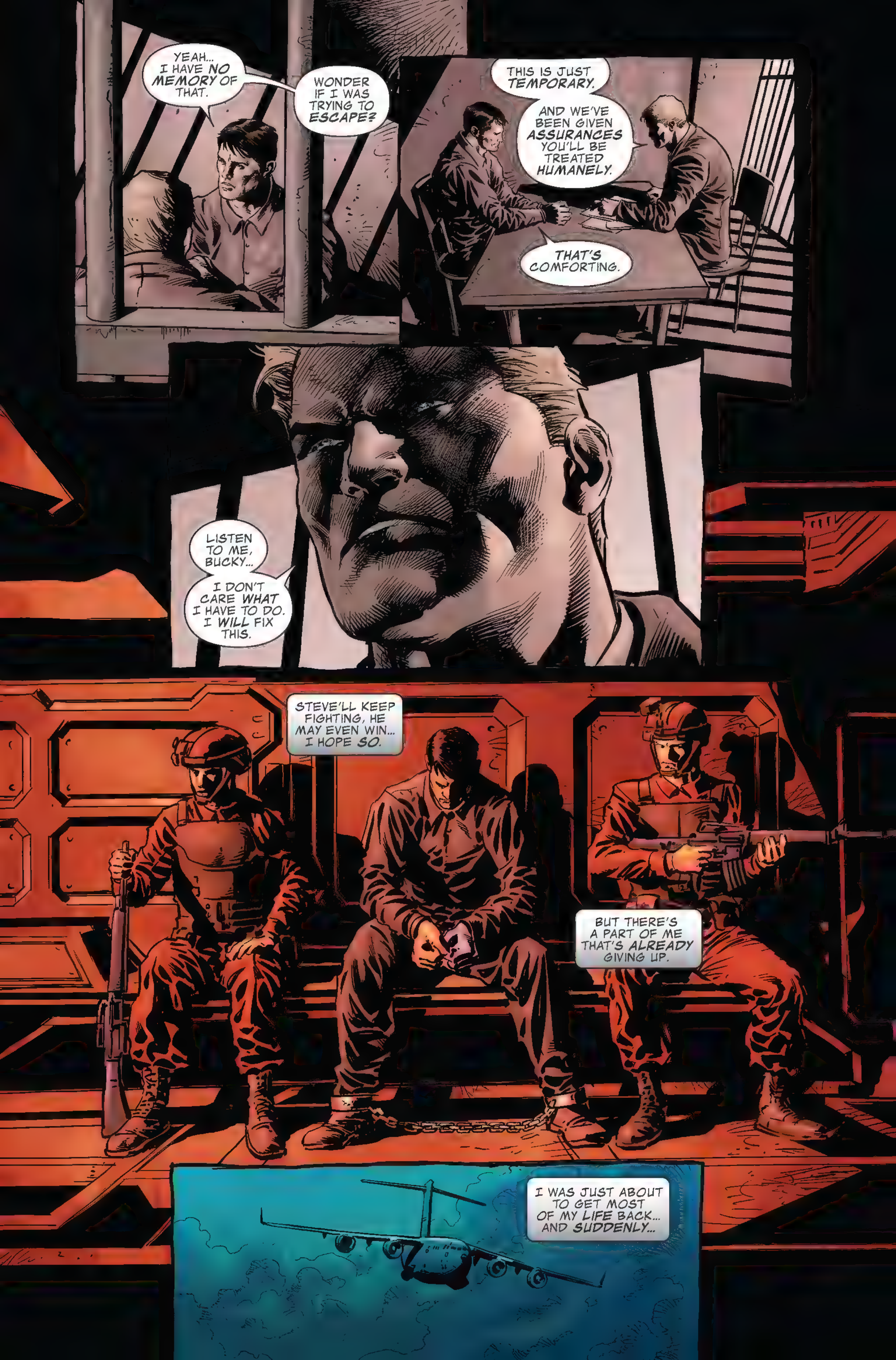

THIS IS THE TRAJECTORY OF MY LIFE...
GUHH--
EVERY TIME THINGS ARE FINALLY STABLE... FINALLY GOOD...
SOMETHING SUDDEN HAPPENS...TO WRECK IT ALL...
FIGHT! FIGHT!
AND THEN I LEARN TO LIVE WITH THAT...
FIGHT! FIGHT! FIGHT!
AND AFTER A WHILE... WORSE-OFF BECOMES THE NEW NORMAL...

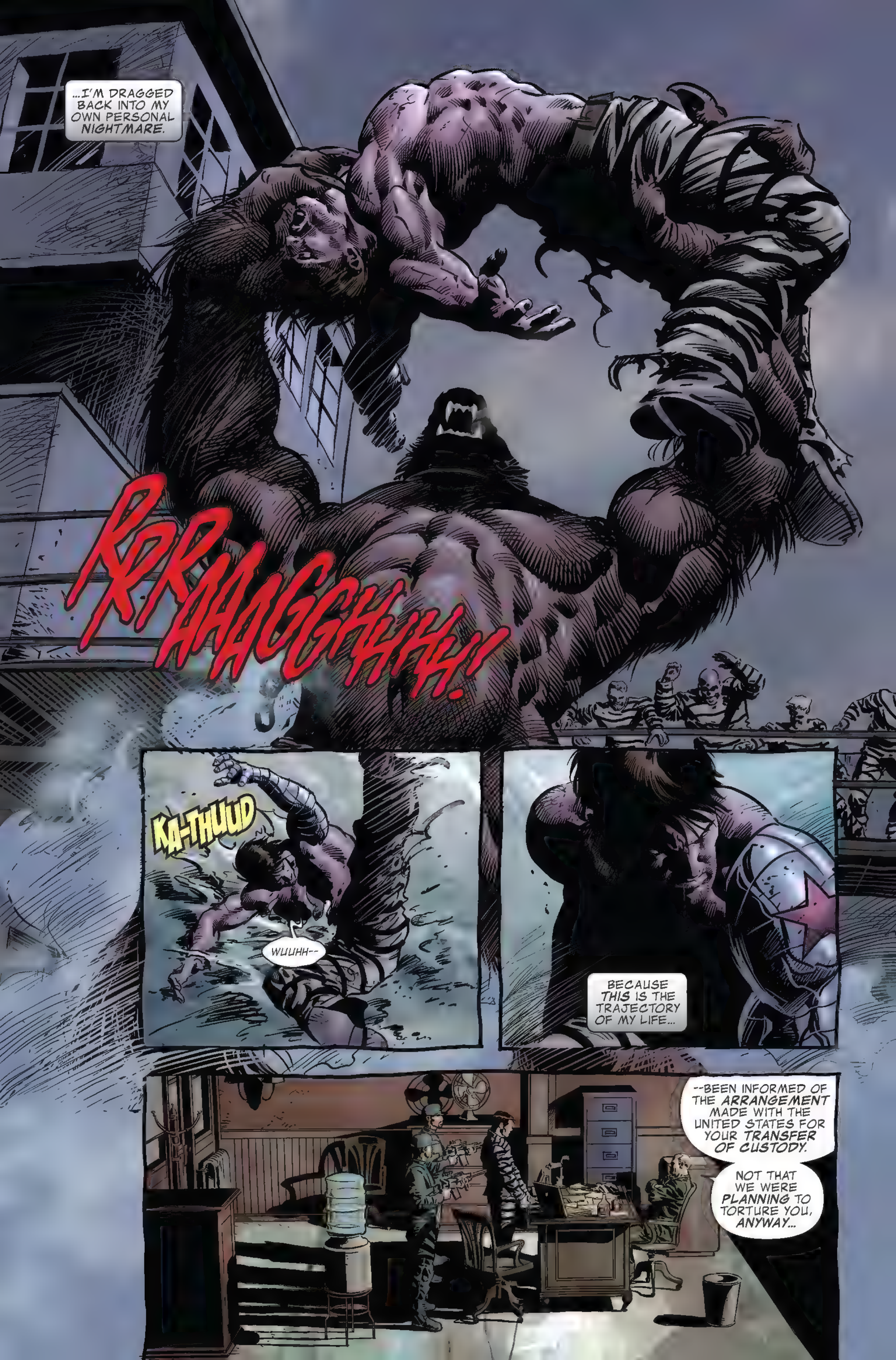

...AND THEN IT STARTS *ALL* OVER AGAIN.
GET 'IM!
TEAR HIS HEAD OFF!
URSA! URSA! URSA!

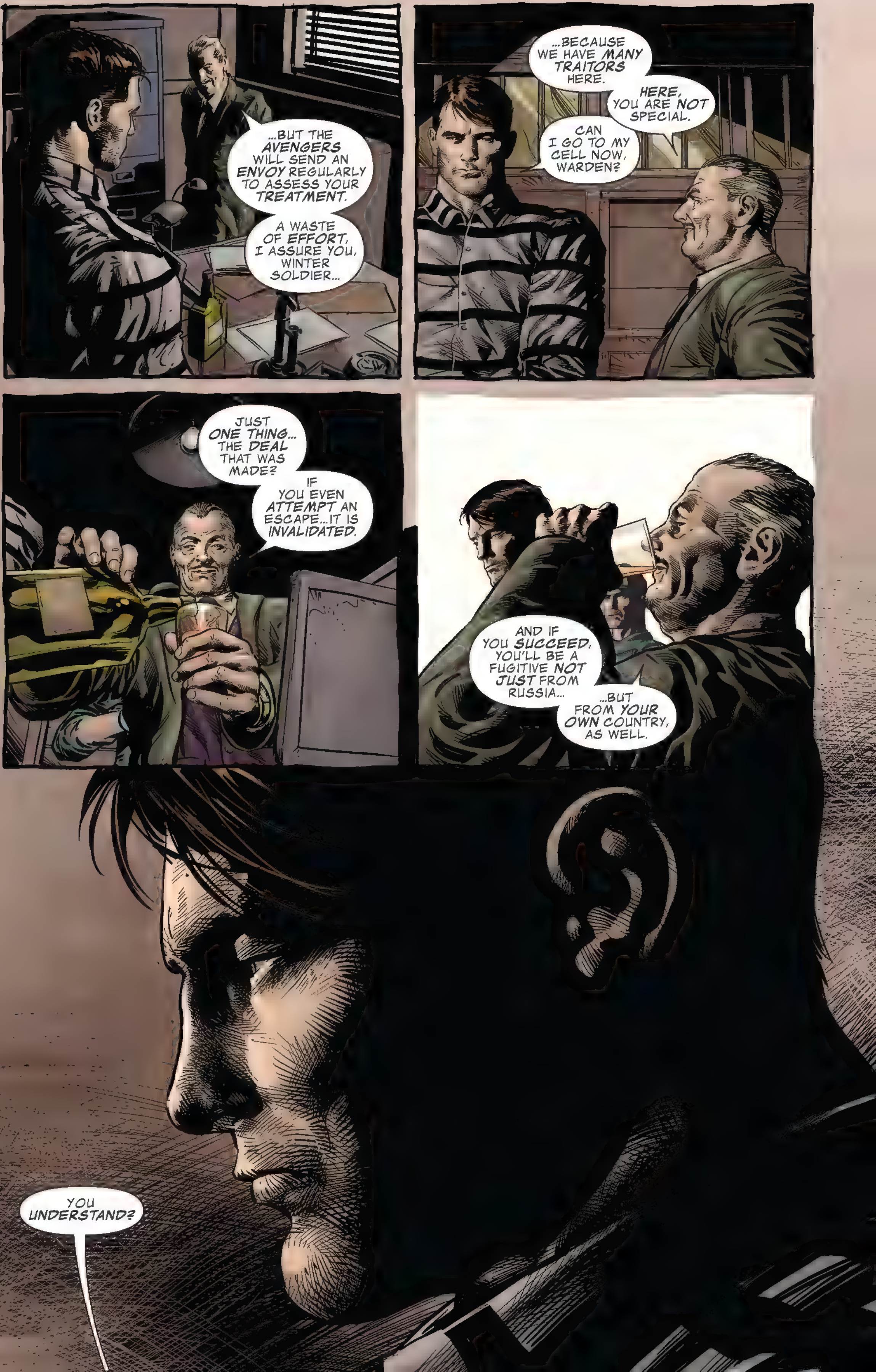
GULAG

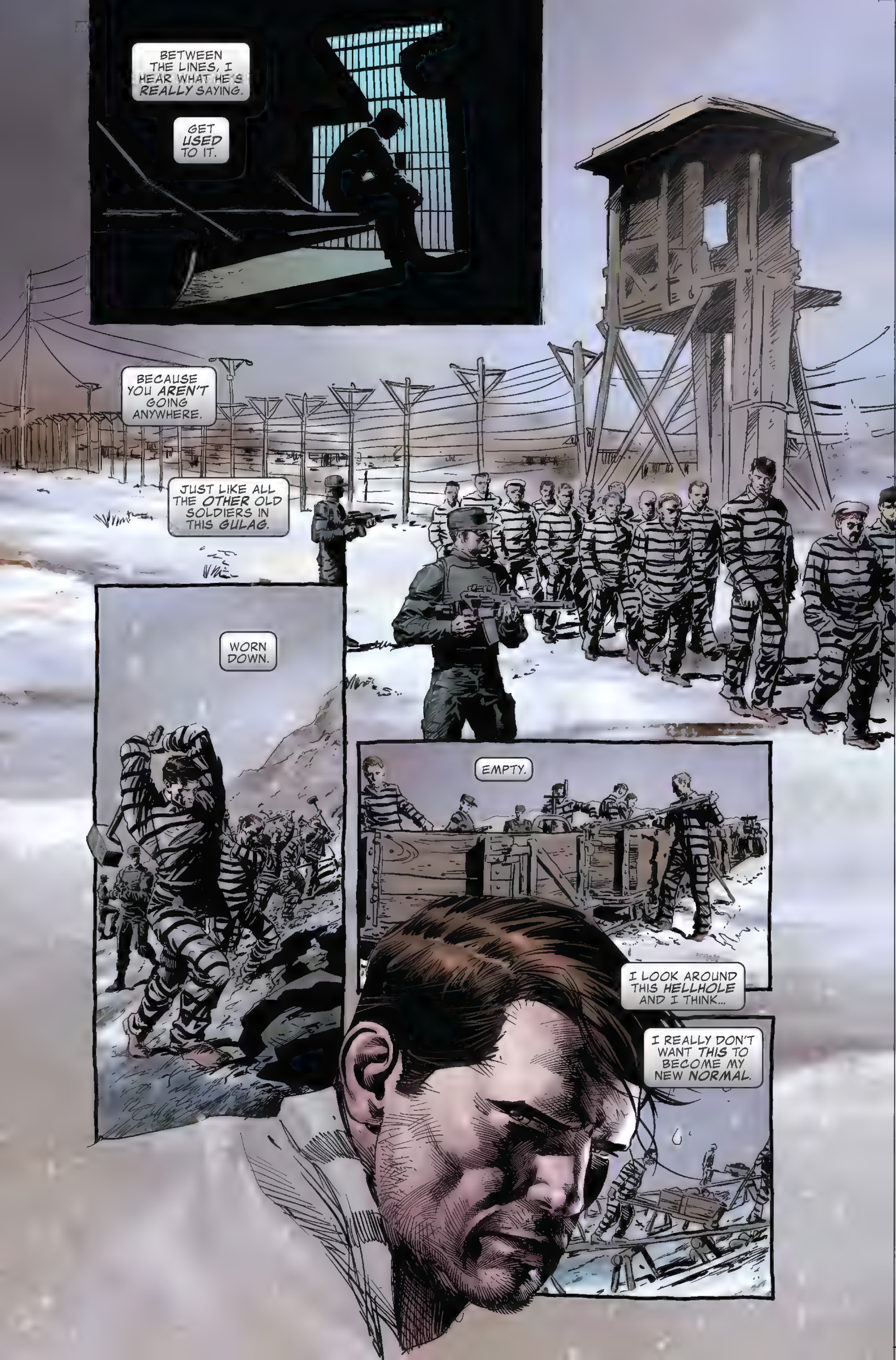
Ed Brubaker - writer
Mike Deodato - artist
Rain Beredo - color artist
VC's Joe Caramagna - letterer
Sankovitch, Brevoort & Alonso - edits

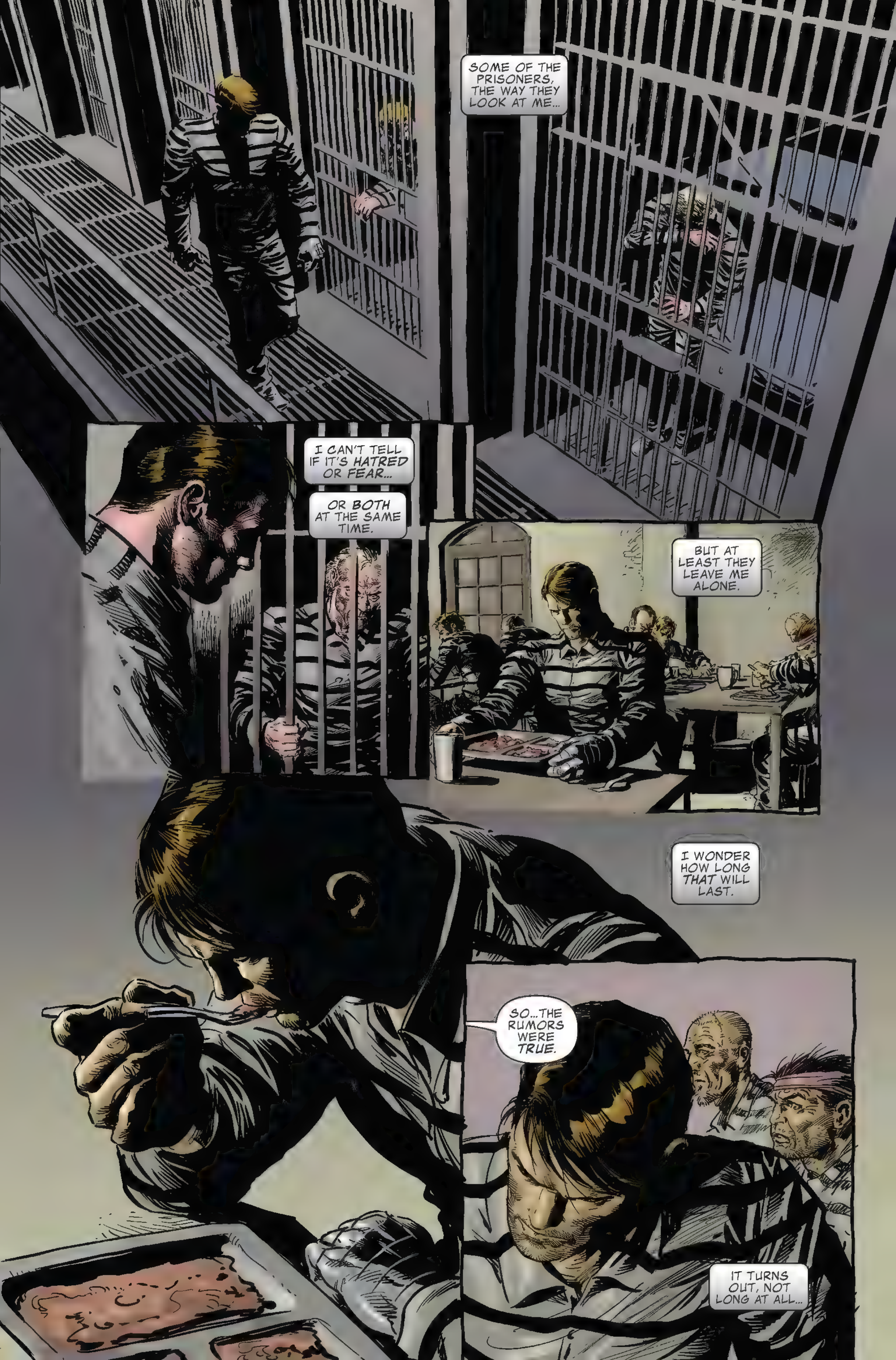
I DIDN'T TRY TO EXPLAIN THAT TO *STEVE* THE LAST TIME I SAW HIM...
--NOTHING WE CAN DO, FOR NOW. NOTHING *LEGAL*, AT LEAST.
APPARENTLY THEY HELD YOUR *TRIAL* YEARS AGO.
HE *WOULDN'T* HAVE UNDERSTOOD.
YEAH, I READ THAT.
FOR SOME CRIME I *SUPPOSEDLY* COMMITTED IN THE '80S?
THEY SAY YOU KILLED SOME PEOPLE... *NOT* UNDER ORDERS.
RUSSIAN CITIZENS.

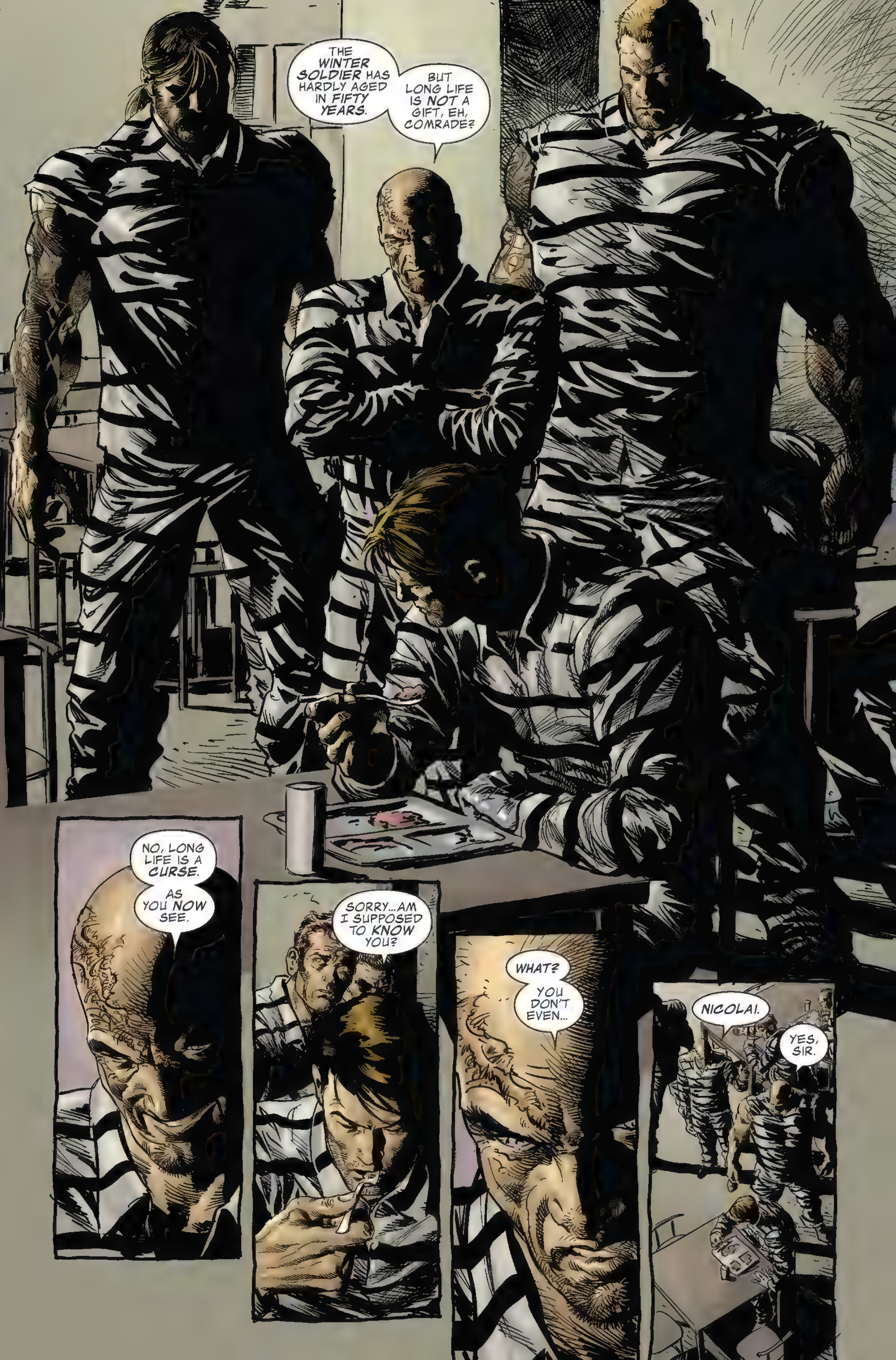

YEAH... I HAVE NO MEMORY OF THAT.
WONDER IF I WAS TRYING TO ESCAPE?
THIS IS JUST TEMPORARY.
AND WE'VE BEEN GIVEN ASSURANCES YOU'LL BE TREATED HUMANELY.
THAT'S COMFORTING.
LISTEN TO ME, BUCKY...
I DON'T CARE WHAT I HAVE TO DO. I WILL FIX THIS.
STEVE'LL KEEP FIGHTING, HE MAY EVEN WIN... I HOPE SO.
BUT THERE'S A PART OF ME THAT'S ALREADY GIVING UP.
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GET MOST OF MY LIFE BACK... AND SUDDENLY...

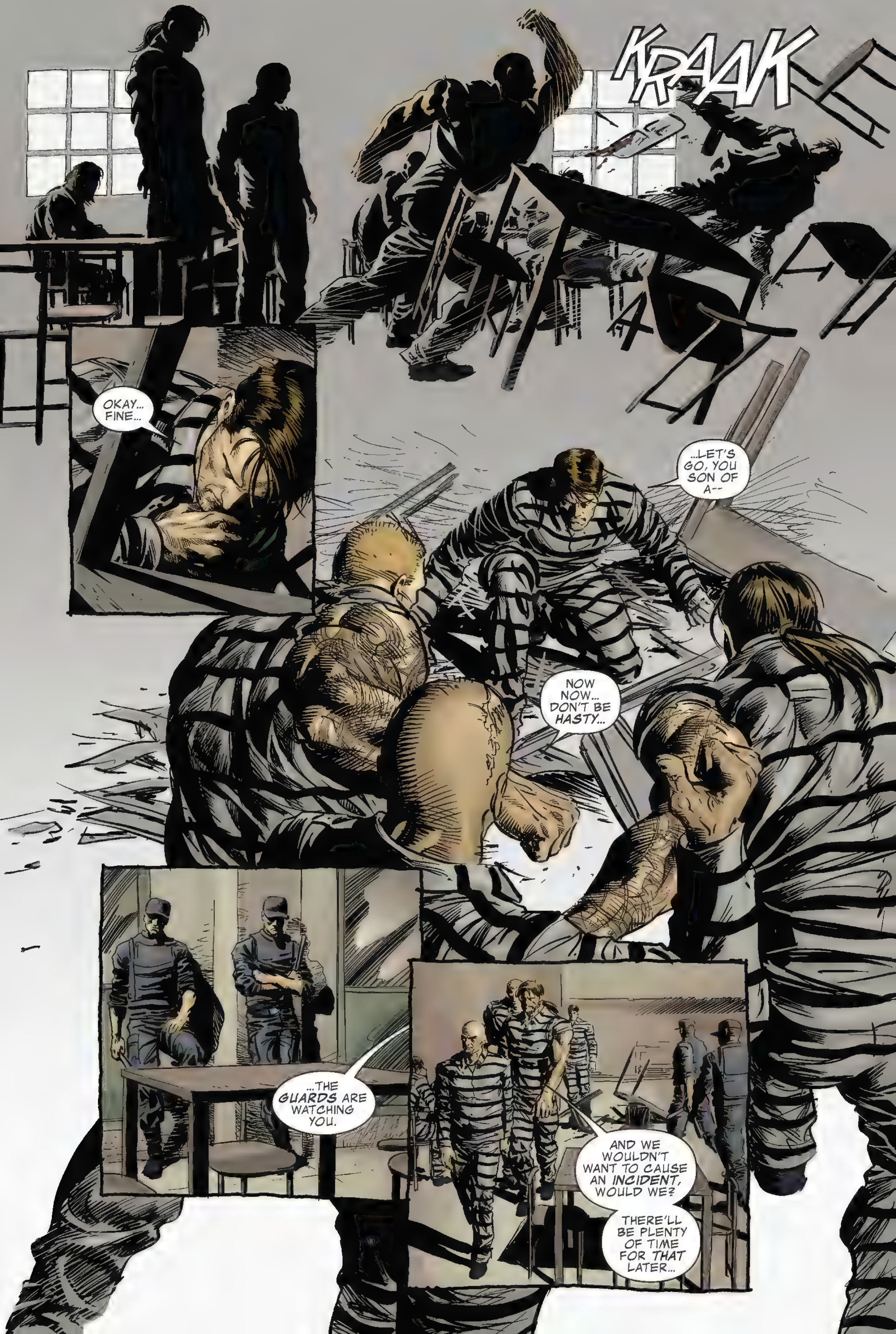

...I'M DRAGGED BACK INTO MY OWN PERSONAL NIGHTMARE.
RRRAAAGGHHHH!!
KA-THUUD
WUUHH--
BECAUSE THIS IS THE TRAJECTORY OF MY LIFE...
--BEEN INFORMED OF THE ARRANGEMENT MADE WITH THE UNITED STATES FOR YOUR TRANSFER OF CUSTODY.
NOT THAT WE WERE PLANNING TO TORTURE YOU, ANYWAY...

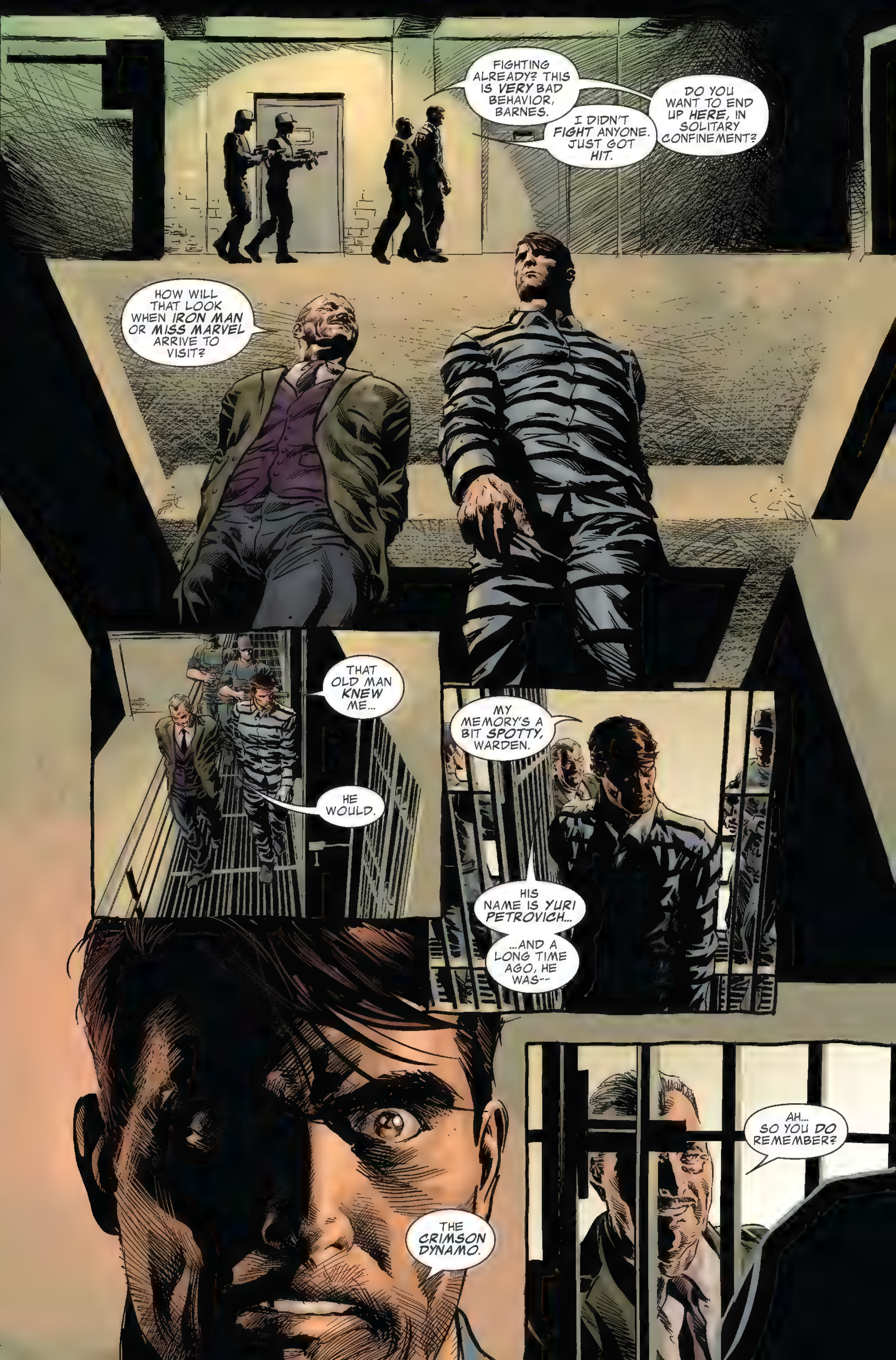

...BUT THE AVENGERS WILL SEND AN ENVOY REGULARLY TO ASSESS YOUR TREATMENT.
A WASTE OF EFFORT, I ASSURE YOU, WINTER SOLDIER...
...BECAUSE WE HAVE MANY TRAITORS HERE.
HERE, YOU ARE NOT SPECIAL.
CAN I GO TO MY CELL NOW, WARDEN?
JUST ONE THING... THE DEAL THAT WAS MADE?
IF YOU EVEN ATTEMPT AN ESCAPE...IT IS INVALIDATED.
AND IF YOU SUCCEED, YOU'LL BE A FUGITIVE NOT JUST FROM RUSSIA...
...BUT FROM YOUR OWN COUNTRY, AS WELL.
YOU UNDERSTAND?

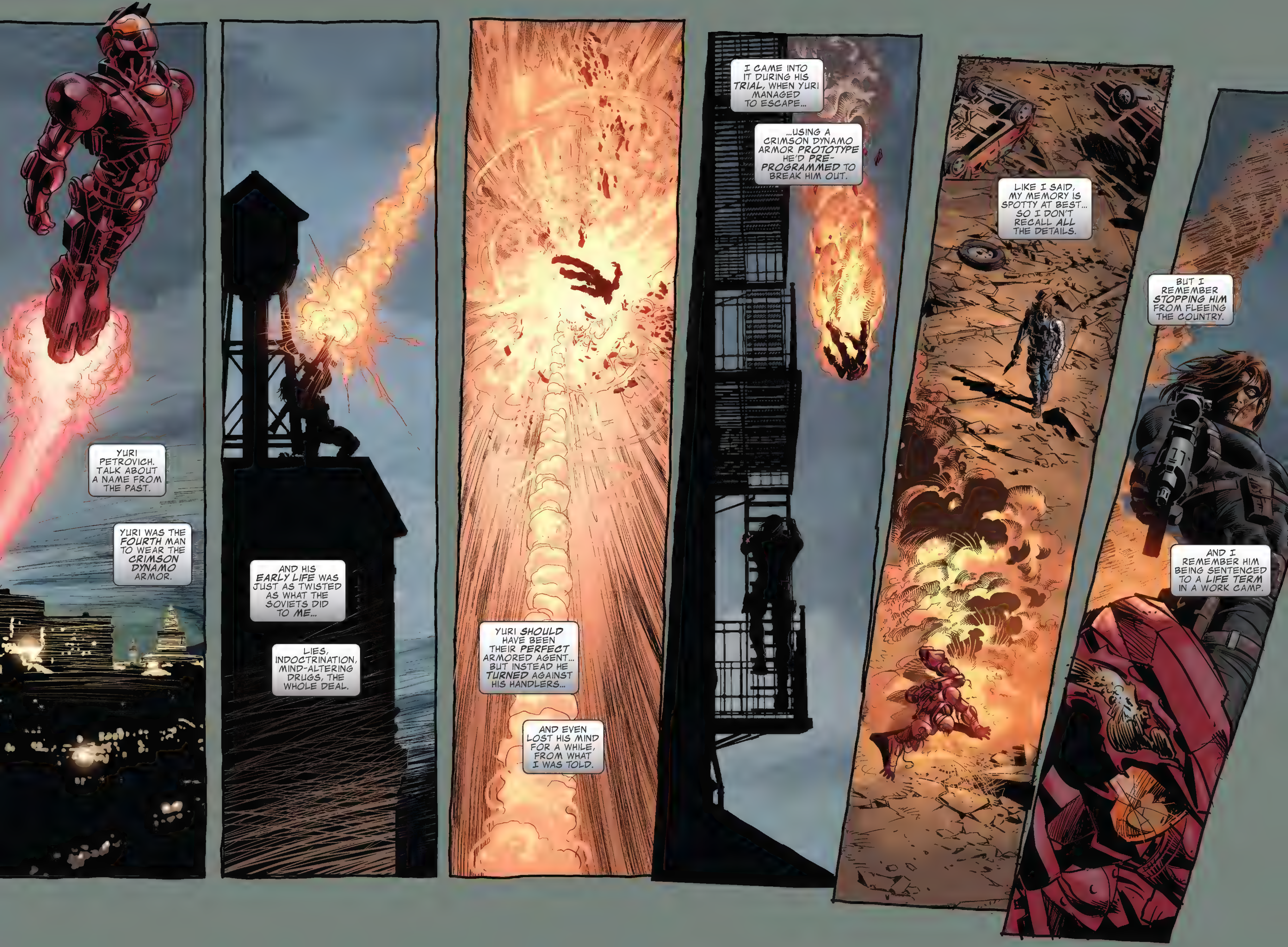

BETWEEN THE LINES, I HEAR WHAT HE'S *REALLY* SAYING.
GET *USED* TO IT.
BECAUSE YOU *AREN'T* GOING ANYWHERE.
JUST LIKE ALL THE *OTHER* OLD SOLDIERS IN THIS *GULAG*.
WORN DOWN.
EMPTY.
I LOOK AROUND THIS *HELLHOLE* AND I THINK...
I REALLY DON'T WANT *THIS* TO BECOME MY NEW *NORMAL*.

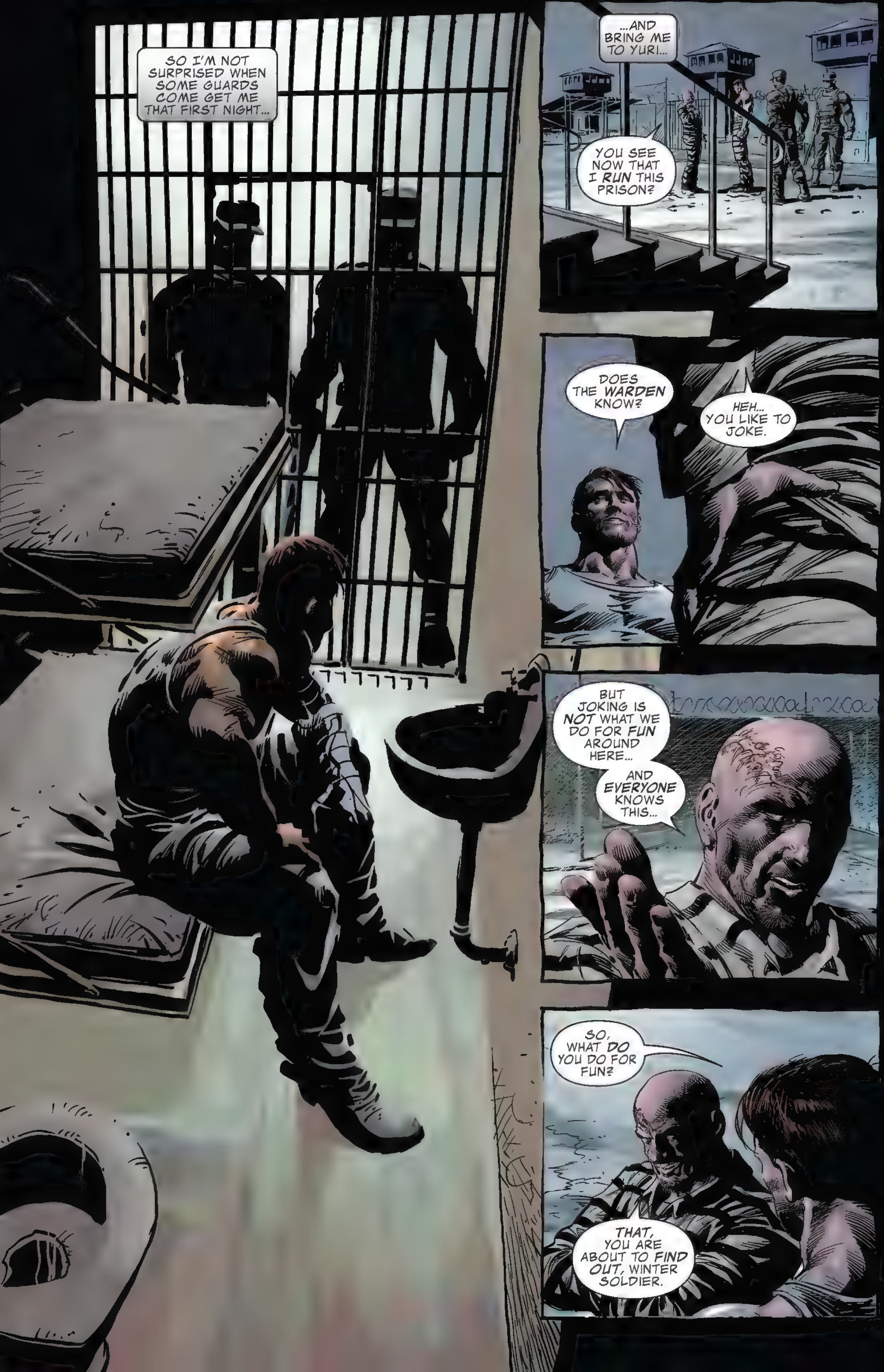

SOME OF THE PRISONERS, THE WAY THEY LOOK AT ME...
I CAN'T TELL IF IT'S *HATRED* OR *FEAR*...
OR *BOTH* AT THE SAME TIME.
BUT AT LEAST THEY LEAVE ME ALONE.
I WONDER HOW LONG *THAT* WILL LAST.
SO...THE RUMORS WERE *TRUE*.
IT TURNS OUT, NOT LONG AT ALL...

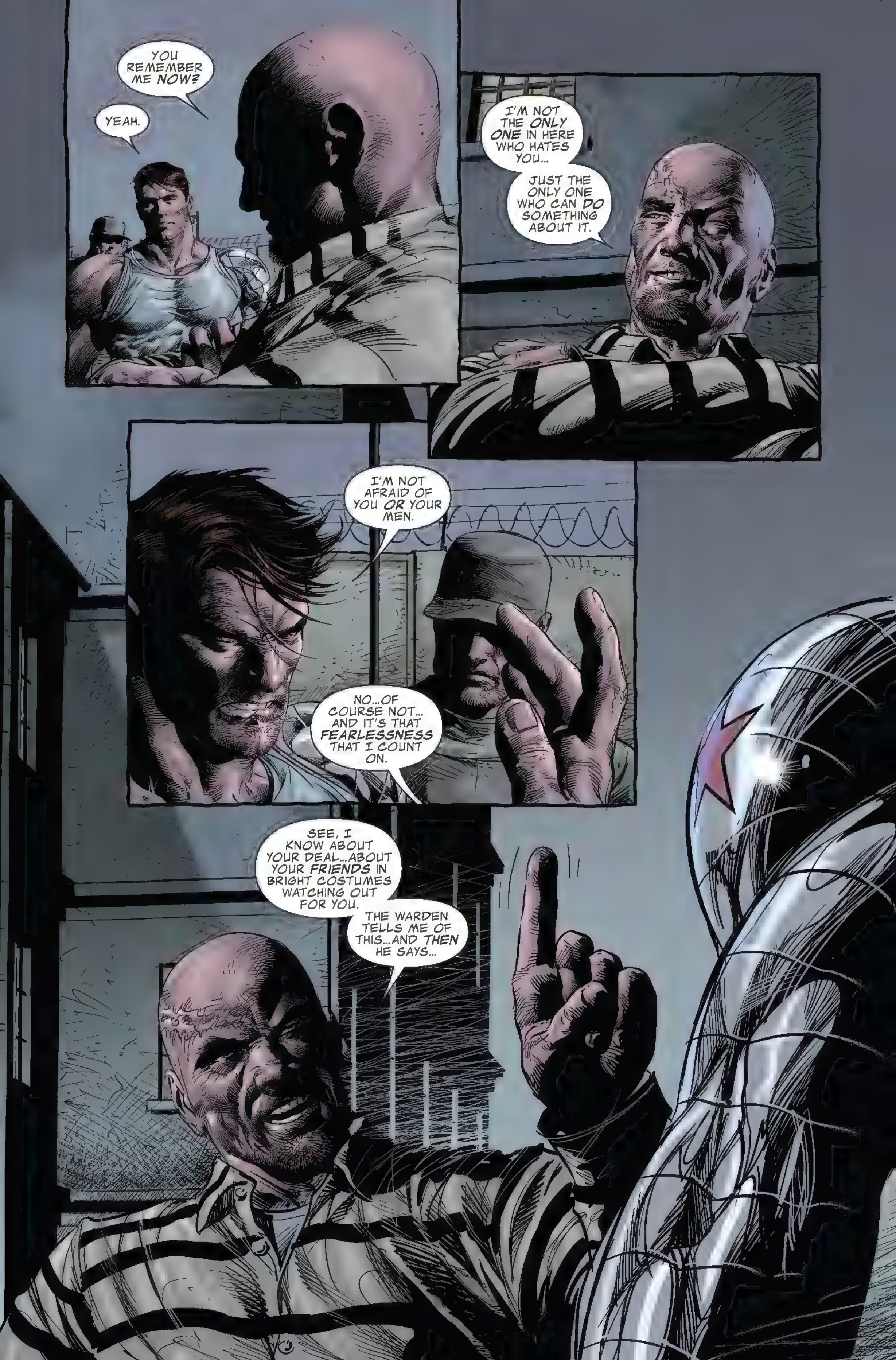

THE WINTER SOLDIER HAS HARDLY AGED IN FIFTY YEARS.
BUT LONG LIFE IS NOT A GIFT, EH, COMRADE?
NO, LONG LIFE IS A CURSE.
AS YOU NOW SEE.
SORRY...AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW YOU?
WHAT?
YOU DON'T EVEN...
NICOLAI.
YES, SIR.

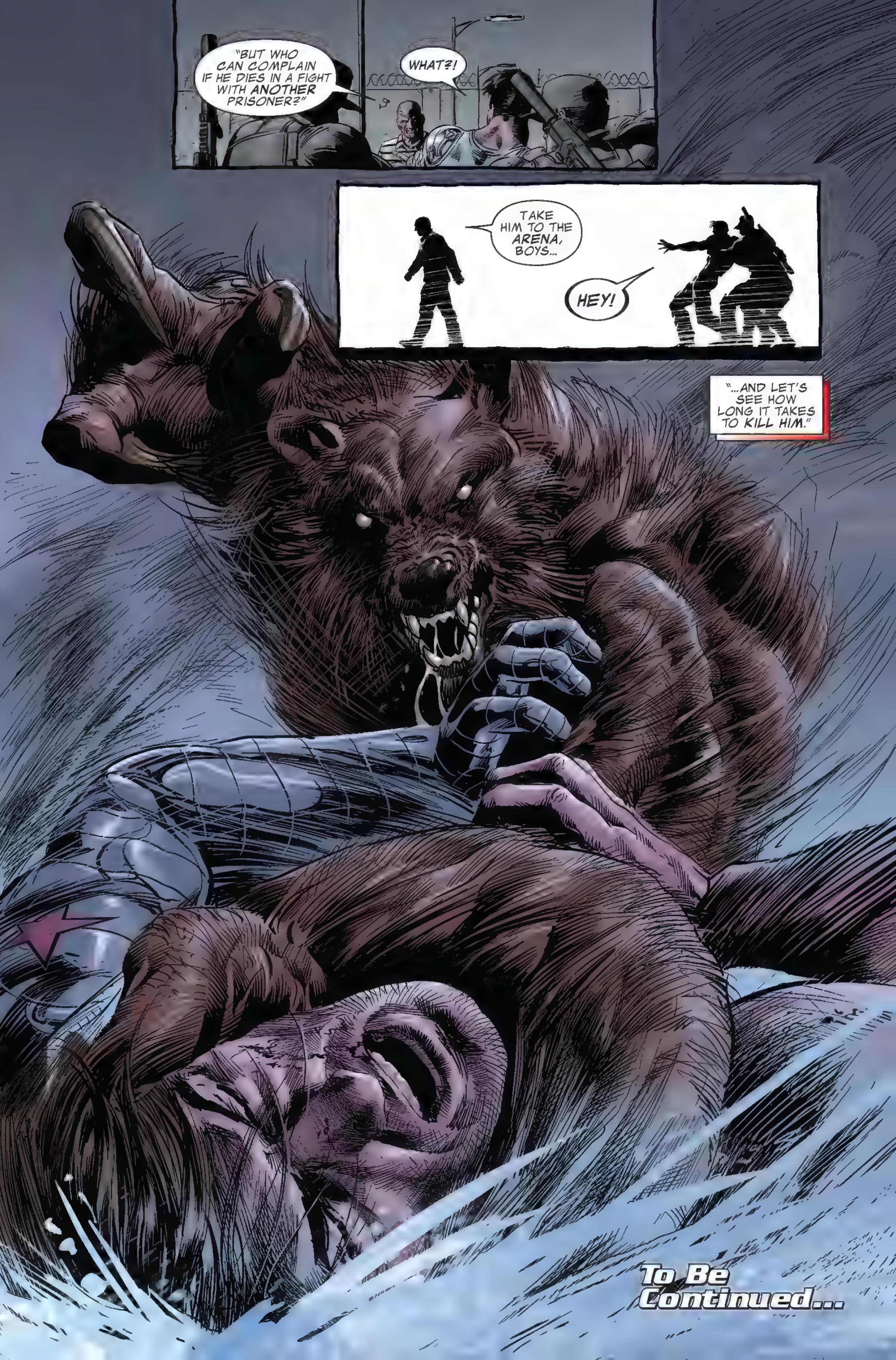

KRAAK
OKAY... FINE...
...LET'S GO, YOU SON OF A--
NOW NOW... DON'T BE HASTY...
...THE GUARDS ARE WATCHING YOU.
AND WE WOULDN'T WANT TO CAUSE AN INCIDENT, WOULD WE?
THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR THAT LATER...

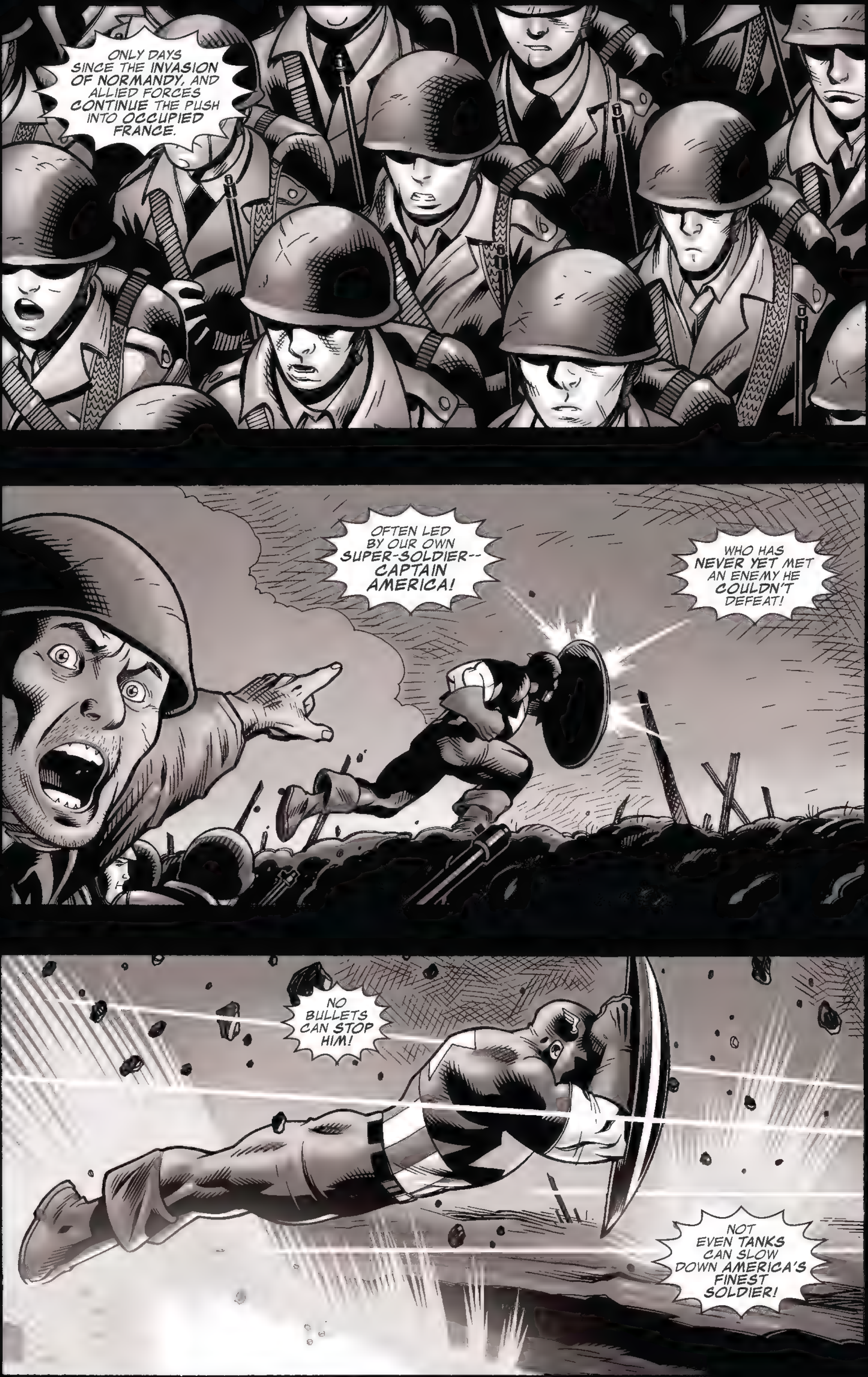

FIGHTING ALREADY? THIS IS *VERY* BAD BEHAVIOR, BARNES.
I DIDN'T *FIGHT* ANYONE. JUST GOT *HIT.*
DO YOU WANT TO END UP *HERE,* IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT?
HOW WILL THAT LOOK WHEN *IRON MAN* OR *MISS MARVEL* ARRIVE TO VISIT?
THAT OLD MAN *KNEW* ME...
HE WOULD.
MY MEMORY'S A BIT *SPOTTY,* WARDEN.
HIS NAME IS *YURI PETROVICH...*
...AND A LONG TIME AGO, HE WAS--
THE *CRIMSON DYNAMO.*
AH... SO YOU *DO* REMEMBER?


YURI PETROVICH. TALK ABOUT A NAME FROM THE PAST.
YURI WAS THE FOURTH MAN TO WEAR THE CRIMSON DYNAMO ARMOR.
AND HIS EARLY LIFE WAS JUST AS TWISTED AS WHAT THE SOVIETS DID TO ME...
LIES, INDOCTRINATION, MIND-ALTERING DRUGS, THE WHOLE DEAL.
YURI SHOULD HAVE BEEN THEIR PERFECT ARMORED AGENT... BUT INSTEAD HE TURNED AGAINST HIS HANDLERS...
AND EVEN LOST HIS MIND FOR A WHILE, FROM WHAT I WAS TOLD.
I CAME INTO IT DURING HIS TRIAL, WHEN YURI MANAGED TO ESCAPE...
...USING A CRIMSON DYNAMO ARMOR PROTOTYPE HE'D PRE-PROGRAMMED TO BREAK HIM OUT.
LIKE I SAID, MY MEMORY IS SPOTTY AT BEST... SO I DON'T RECALL ALL THE DETAILS.
BUT I REMEMBER STOPPING HIM FROM FLEEING THE COUNTRY.
AND I REMEMBER HIM BEING SENTENCED TO A LIFE TERM IN A WORK CAMP.

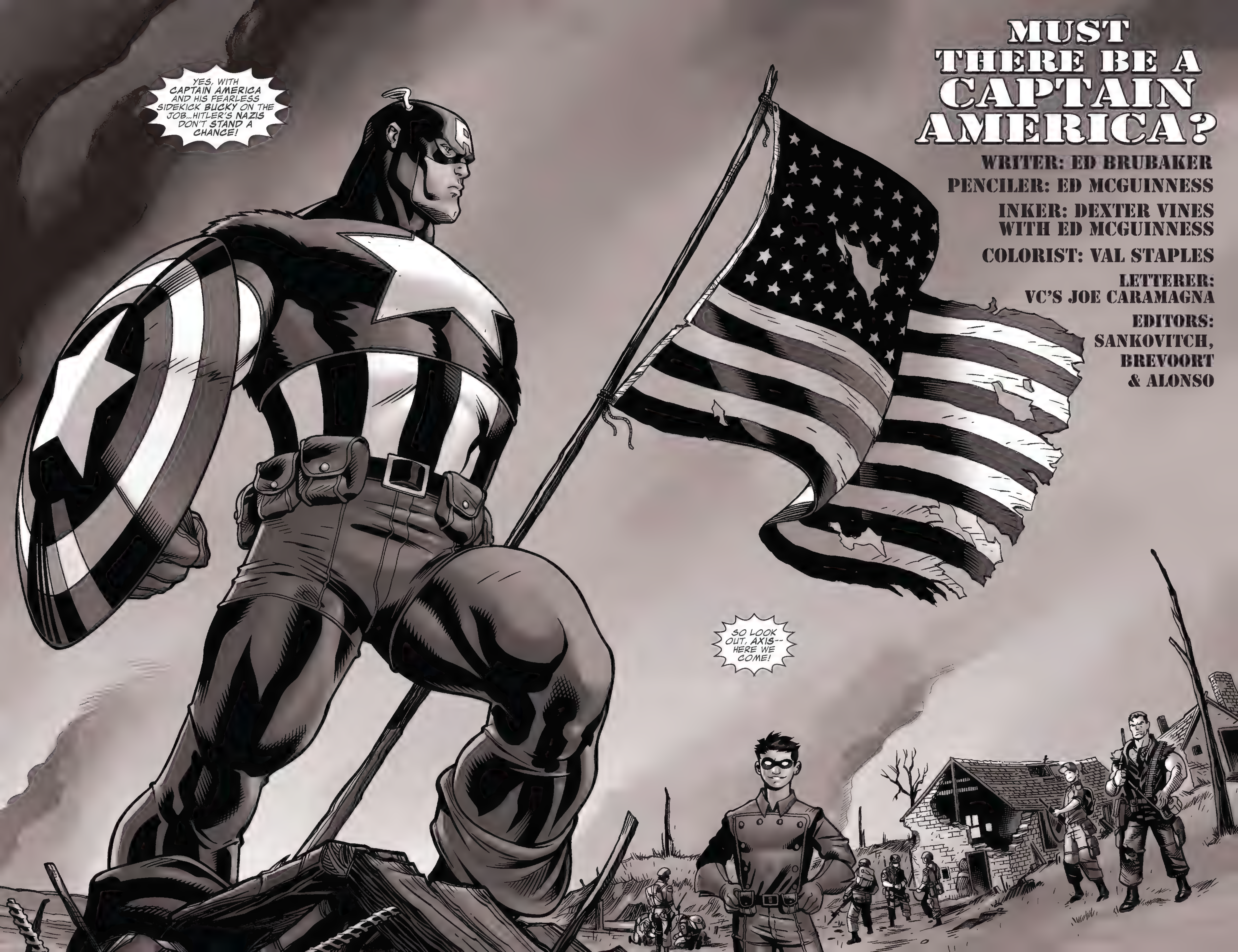

SO I'M NOT SURPRISED WHEN SOME GUARDS COME GET ME THAT FIRST NIGHT...
...AND BRING ME TO YURI...
YOU SEE NOW THAT I *RUN* THIS PRISON?
DOES THE *WARDEN* KNOW?
HEH... YOU LIKE TO JOKE.
BUT JOKING IS *NOT* WHAT WE DO FOR *FUN* AROUND HERE...
AND *EVERYONE* KNOWS THIS...
SO, WHAT *DO* YOU DO FOR FUN?
THAT, YOU ARE ABOUT TO *FIND OUT*, WINTER SOLDIER.


YOU REMEMBER ME *NOW?*
YEAH.
I'M NOT THE *ONLY ONE* IN HERE WHO HATES YOU...
JUST THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN *DO* SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU *OR* YOUR MEN.
NO...OF COURSE NOT... AND IT'S THAT *FEARLESSNESS* THAT I COUNT ON.
SEE, I KNOW ABOUT YOUR DEAL...ABOUT YOUR *FRIENDS* IN BRIGHT COSTUMES WATCHING OUT FOR YOU.
THE WARDEN TELLS ME OF THIS...AND *THEN* HE SAYS...

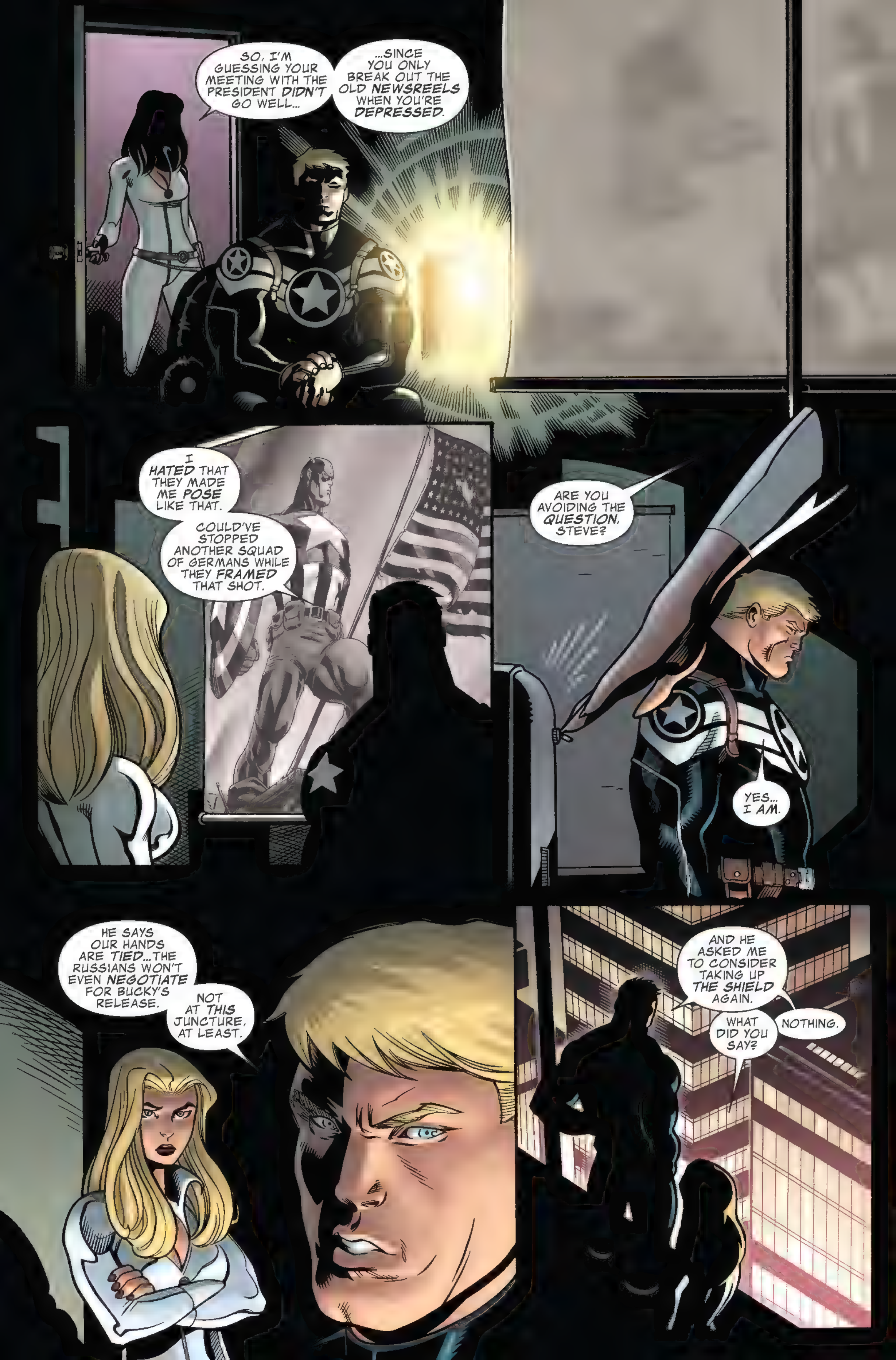

"BUT WHO CAN COMPLAIN IF HE DIES IN A FIGHT WITH ANOTHER PRISONER?"
WHAT?!
TAKE HIM TO THE ARENA, BOYS...
HEY!
"...AND LET'S SEE HOW LONG IT TAKES TO KILL HIM."
To Be Continued...

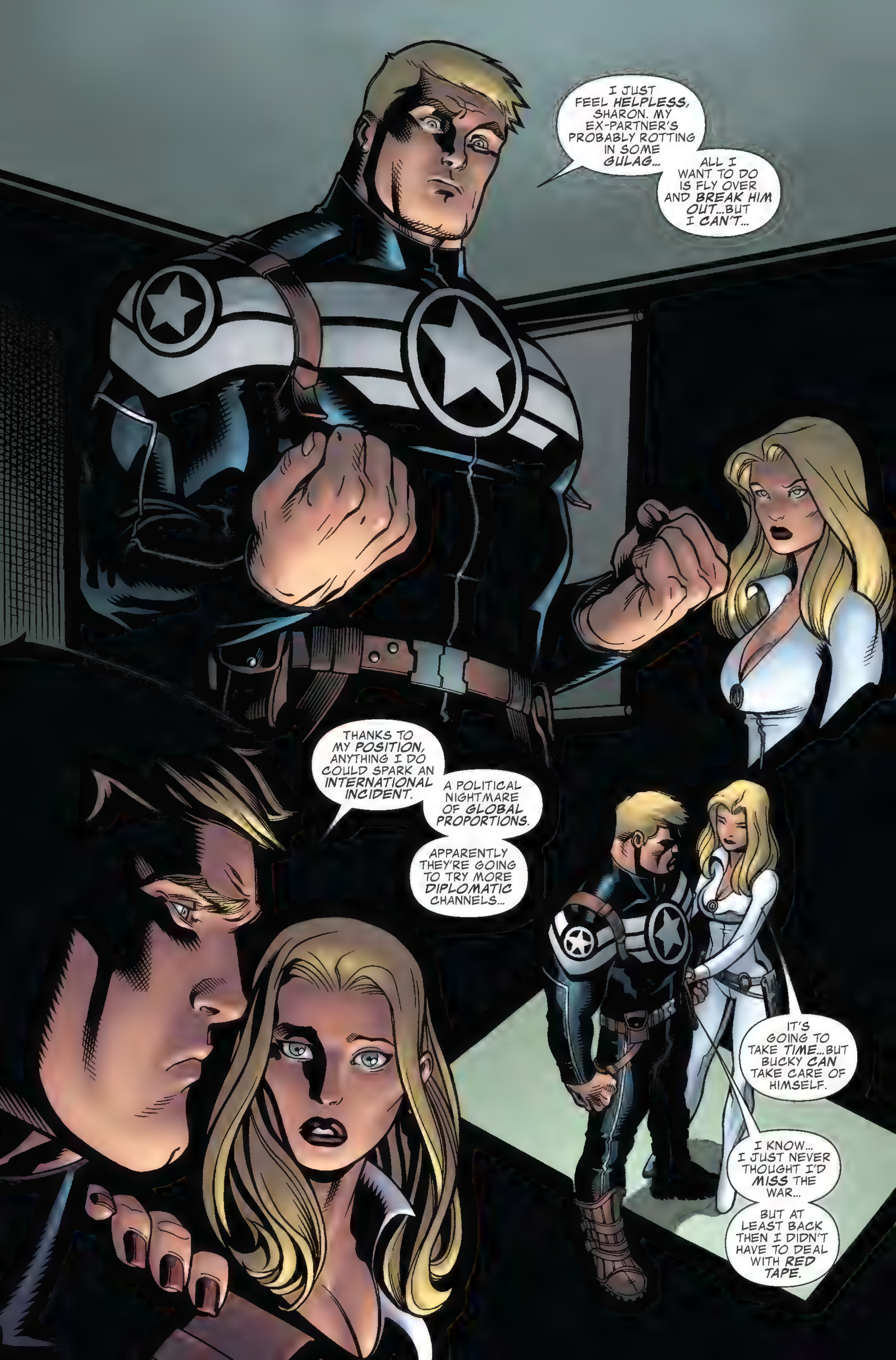

ONLY DAYS SINCE THE INVASION OF NORMANDY, AND ALLIED FORCES CONTINUE THE PUSH INTO OCCUPIED FRANCE.
OFTEN LED BY OUR OWN SUPER-SOLDIER-- CAPTAIN AMERICA!
WHO HAS NEVER YET MET AN ENEMY HE COULDN'T DEFEAT!
NO BULLETS CAN STOP HIM!
NOT EVEN TANKS CAN SLOW DOWN AMERICA'S FINEST SOLDIER!

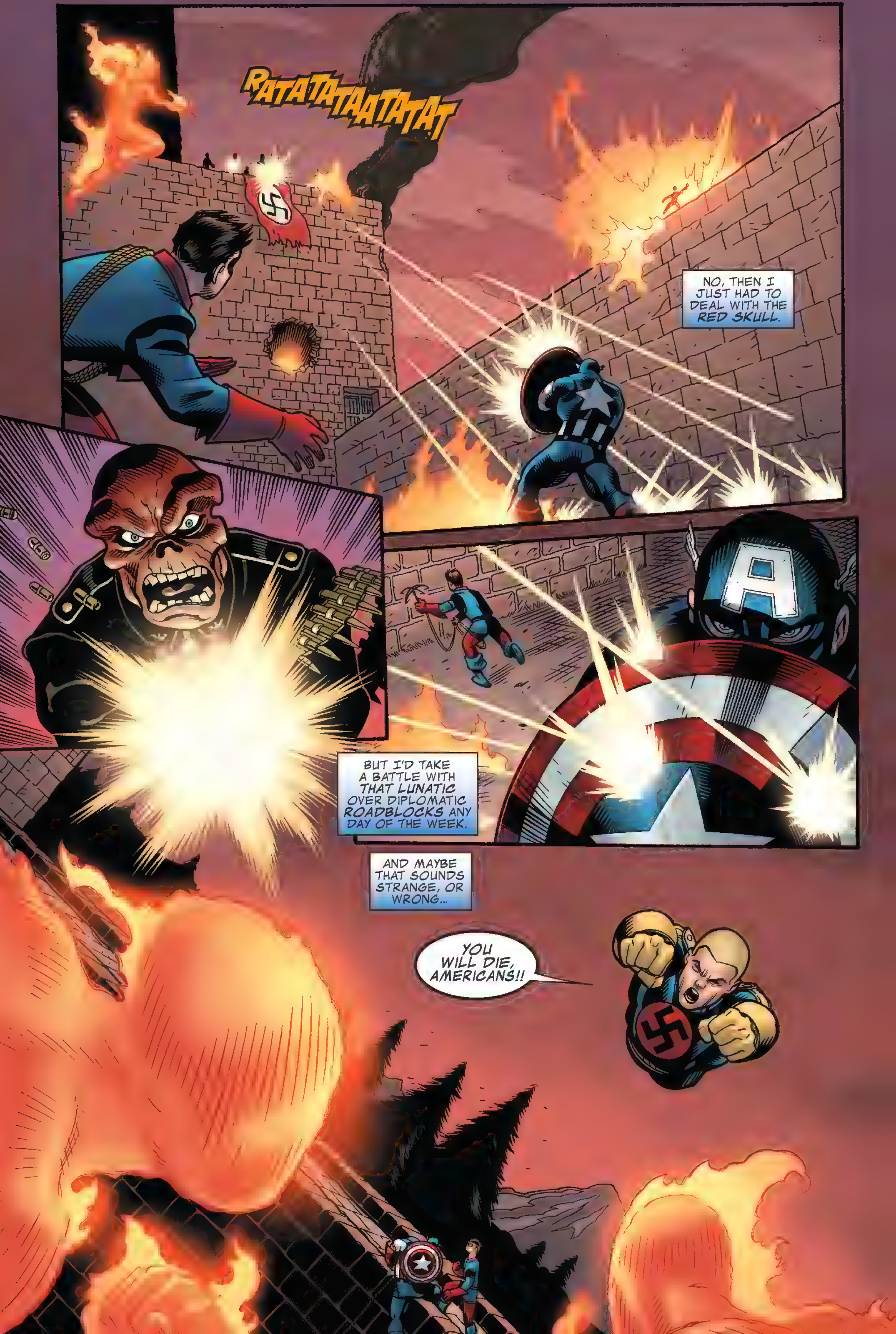
MUST THERE BE A CAPTAIN AMERICA?

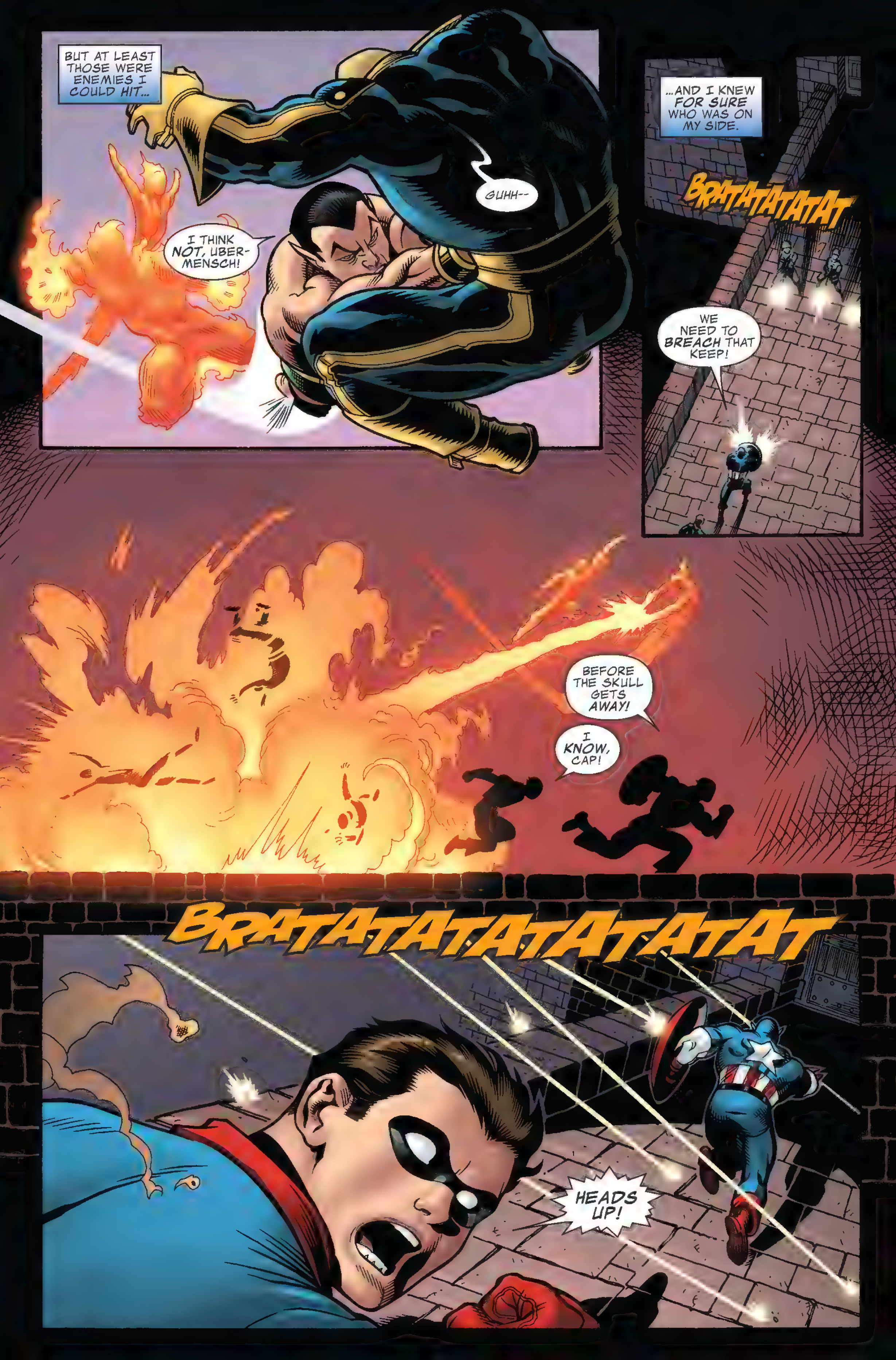

YES, WITH CAPTAIN AMERICA AND HIS FEARLESS SIDEKICK BUCKY ON THE JOB...HITLER'S NAZIS DON'T STAND A CHANCE!
SO LOOK OUT, AXIS-- HERE WE COME!

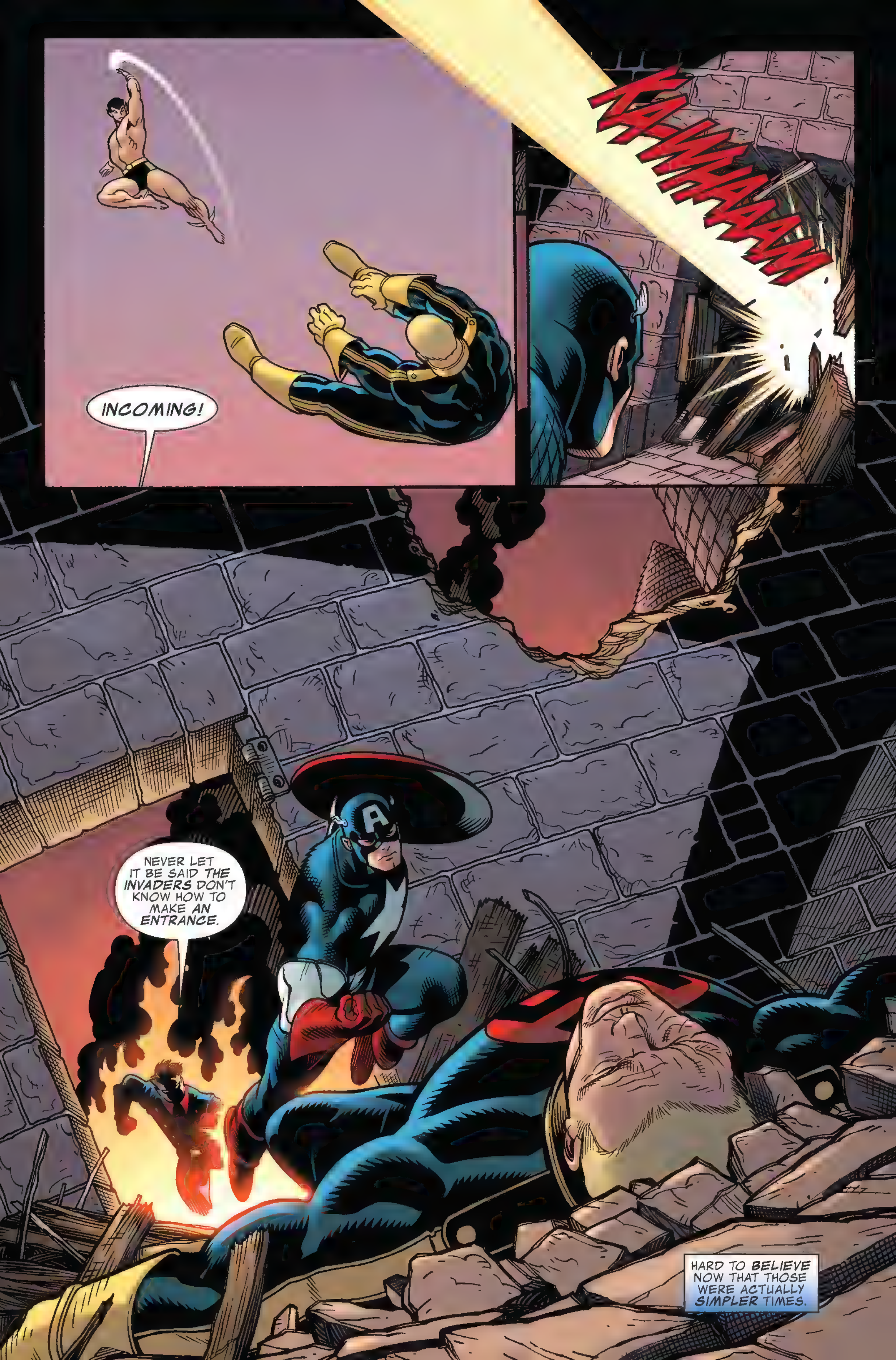
WRITER: ED BRUBAKER
PENCILER: ED MCGUINNESS
INKER: DEXTER VINES WITH ED MCGUINNESS
COLORIST: VAL STAPLES
LETTERER: VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA
EDITORS: SANKOVITCH, BREVOORT & ALONSO

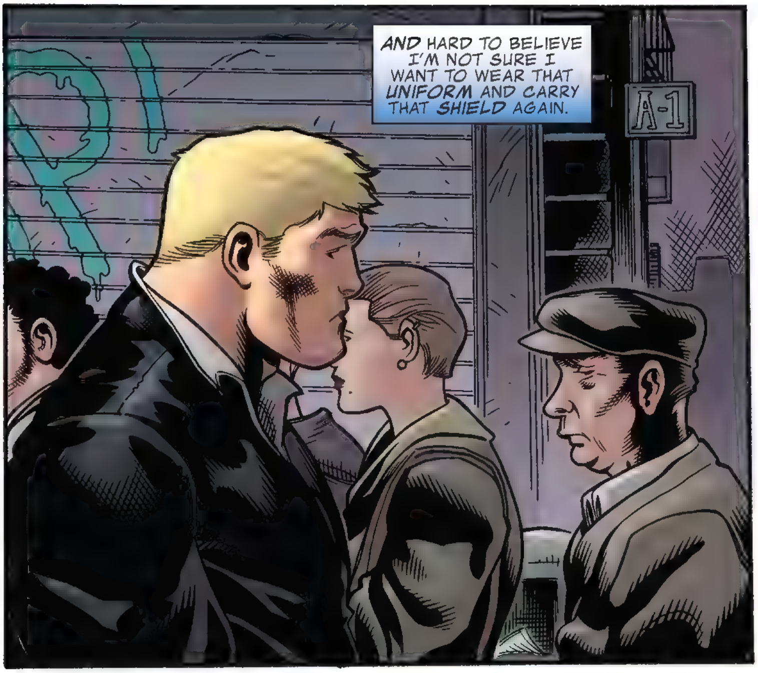

SO, I'M GUESSING YOUR MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT *DIDN'T* GO WELL...
...SINCE YOU ONLY BREAK OUT THE OLD **NEWSREELS** WHEN YOU'RE ***DEPRESSED***.
I ***HATED*** THAT THEY MADE ME ***POSE*** LIKE THAT.
COULD'VE STOPPED ANOTHER SQUAD OF GERMANS WHILE THEY ***FRAMED*** THAT SHOT.
ARE YOU AVOIDING THE ***QUESTION***, STEVE?
YES... I *AM*.
HE SAYS OUR HANDS ARE *TIED*... THE RUSSIANS WON'T EVEN ***NEGOTIATE*** FOR BUCKY'S RELEASE.
NOT AT *THIS* JUNCTURE, AT LEAST.
AND HE ASKED ME TO CONSIDER TAKING UP ***THE SHIELD*** AGAIN.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
NOTHING.

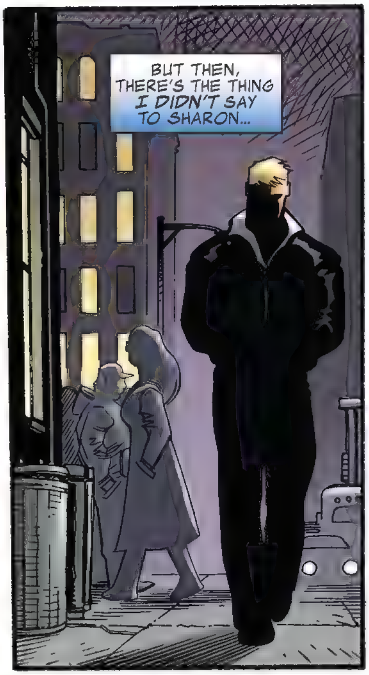

I JUST FEEL **HELPLESS**, SHARON. MY EX-PARTNER'S PROBABLY ROTTING IN SOME ***GULAG***...
ALL I WANT TO DO IS FLY OVER AND ***BREAK HIM OUT***...BUT I ***CAN'T***...
THANKS TO MY ***POSITION***, ANYTHING I DO COULD SPARK AN ***INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT***.
A POLITICAL NIGHTMARE OF ***GLOBAL PROPORTIONS***.
APPARENTLY THEY'RE GOING TO TRY MORE ***DIPLOMATIC*** CHANNELS...
IT'S GOING TO TAKE ***TIME***...BUT BUCKY ***CAN*** TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF.
I KNOW... I JUST NEVER THOUGHT I'D ***MISS*** THE WAR...
BUT AT LEAST BACK THEN I DIDN'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH ***RED TAPE***.

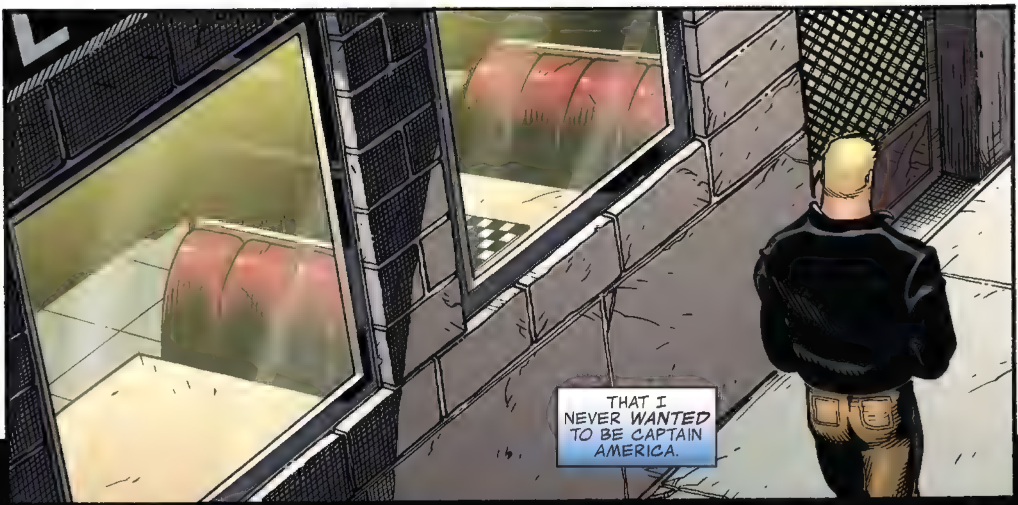

RATATATAATATAT
NO, THEN I JUST HAD TO DEAL WITH THE RED SKULL.
BUT I'D TAKE A BATTLE WITH THAT LUNATIC OVER DIPLOMATIC ROADBLOCKS ANY DAY OF THE WEEK.
AND MAYBE THAT SOUNDS STRANGE, OR WRONG...
YOU WILL DIE, AMERICANS!!

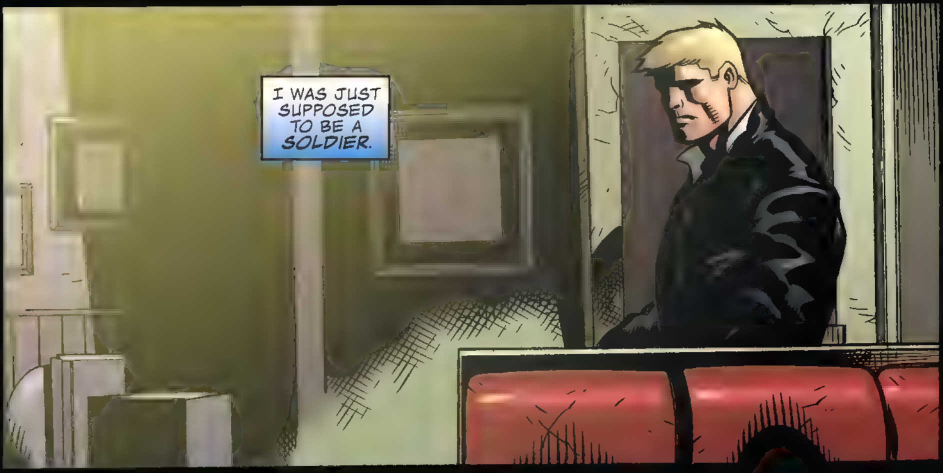

BUT AT LEAST THOSE WERE ENEMIES I COULD HIT...
I THINK *NOT*, UBERMENSCH!
GUHH--
...AND I KNEW FOR *SURE* WHO WAS ON MY SIDE.
BRATATATATAT
WE NEED TO *BREACH* THAT KEEP!
BEFORE THE SKULL GETS *AWAY!*
I *KNOW*, CAP!
BRATATATATATATAT
HEADS UP!

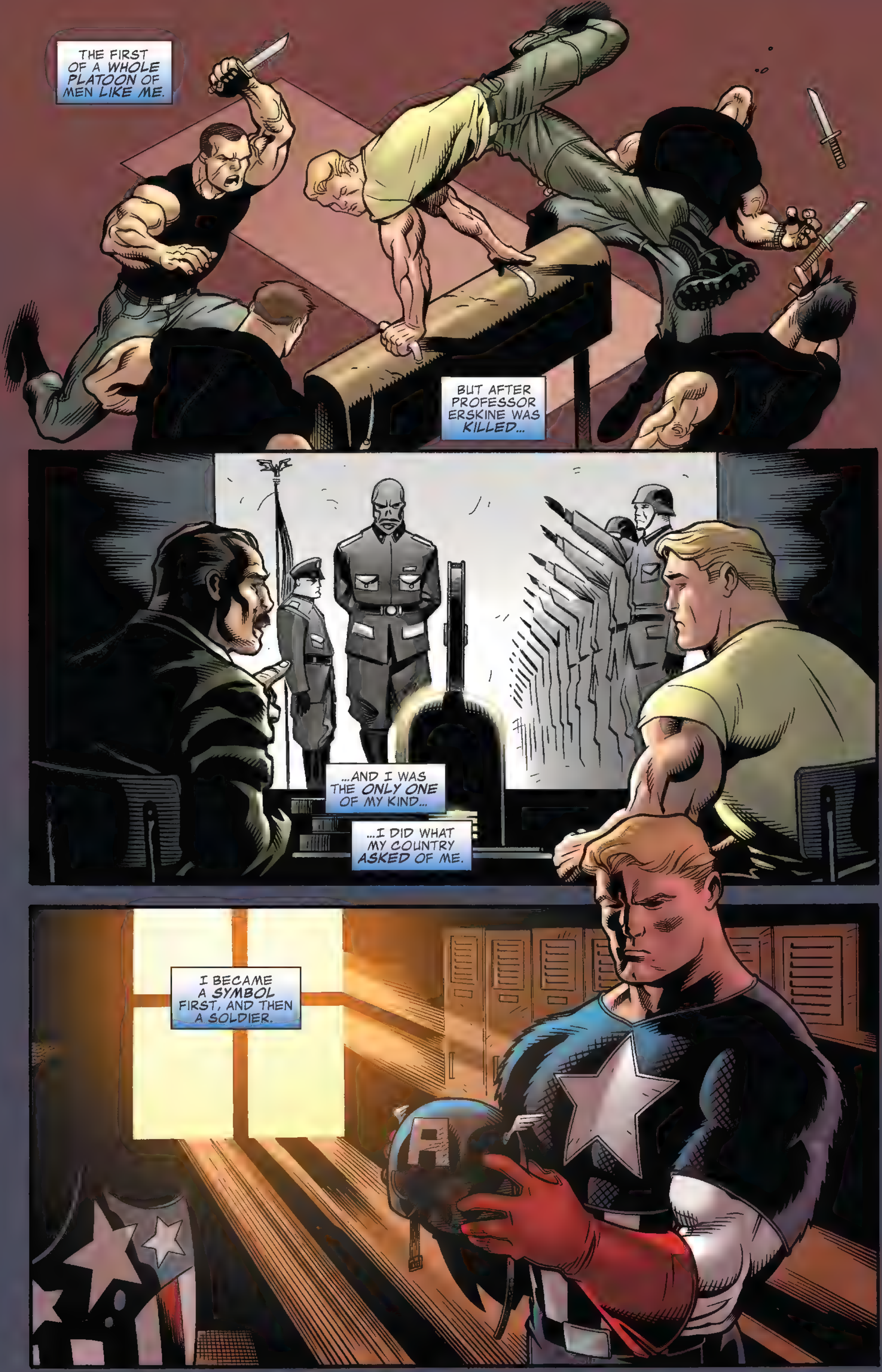

INCOMING!
KA-WHAAAAM
NEVER LET IT BE SAID *THE INVADERS* DON'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE *AN ENTRANCE.*
HARD TO *BELIEVE* NOW THAT THOSE WERE ACTUALLY *SIMPLER* TIMES.

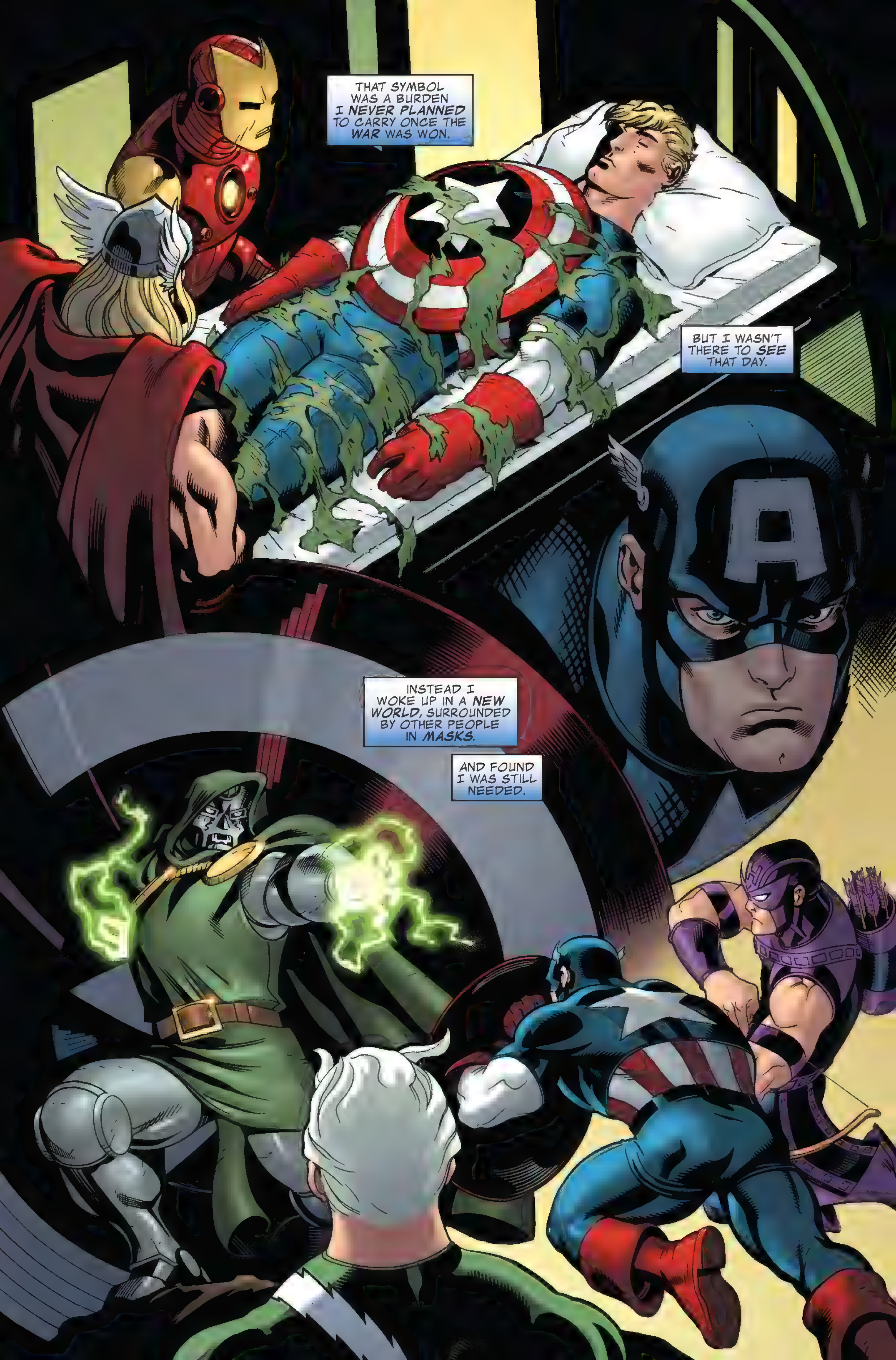

AND HARD TO BELIEVE I'M NOT SURE I WANT TO WEAR THAT UNIFORM AND CARRY THAT SHIELD AGAIN.
A-1

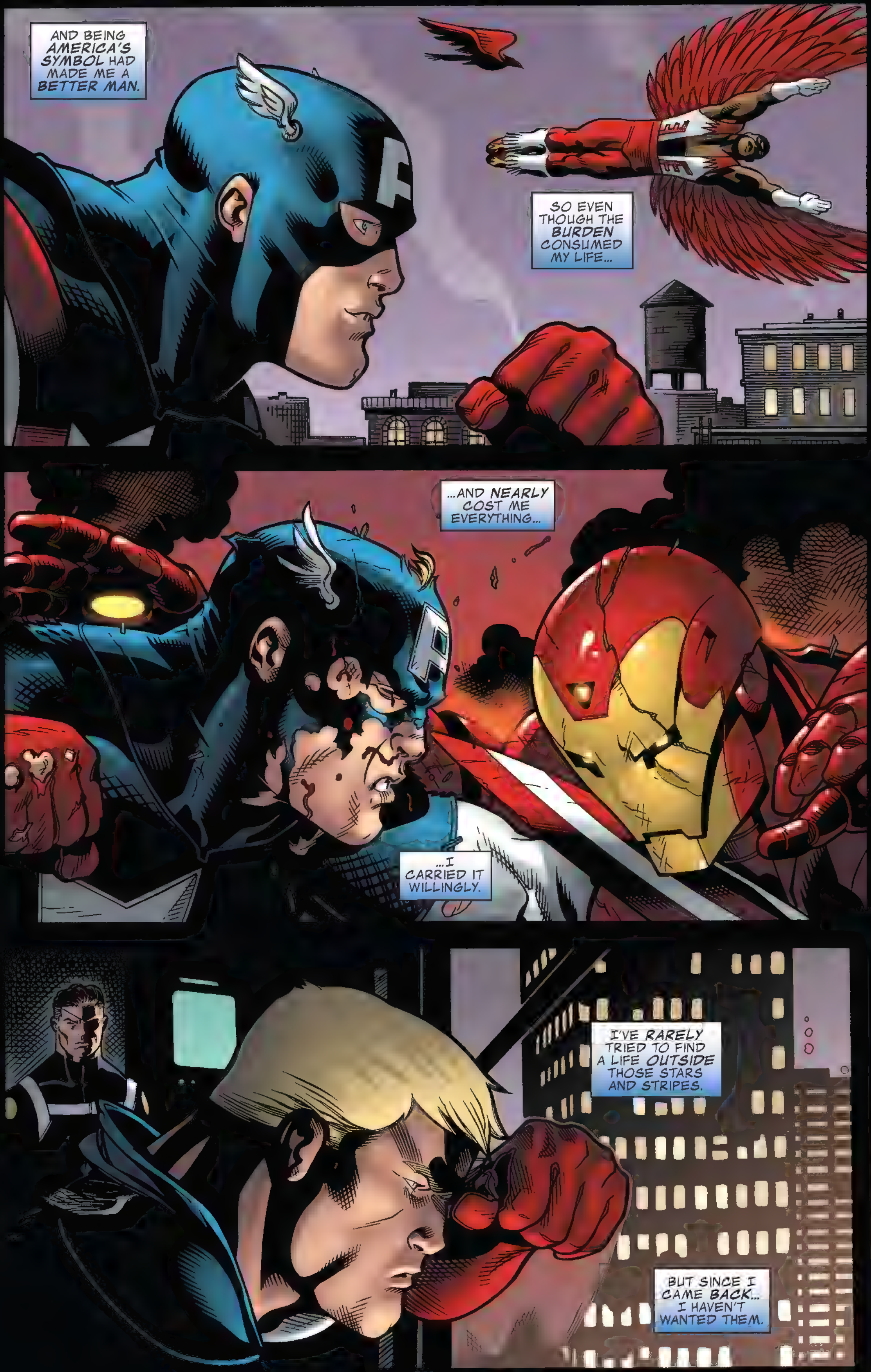

BUT THEN, THERE'S THE THING I DIDN'T SAY TO SHARON...

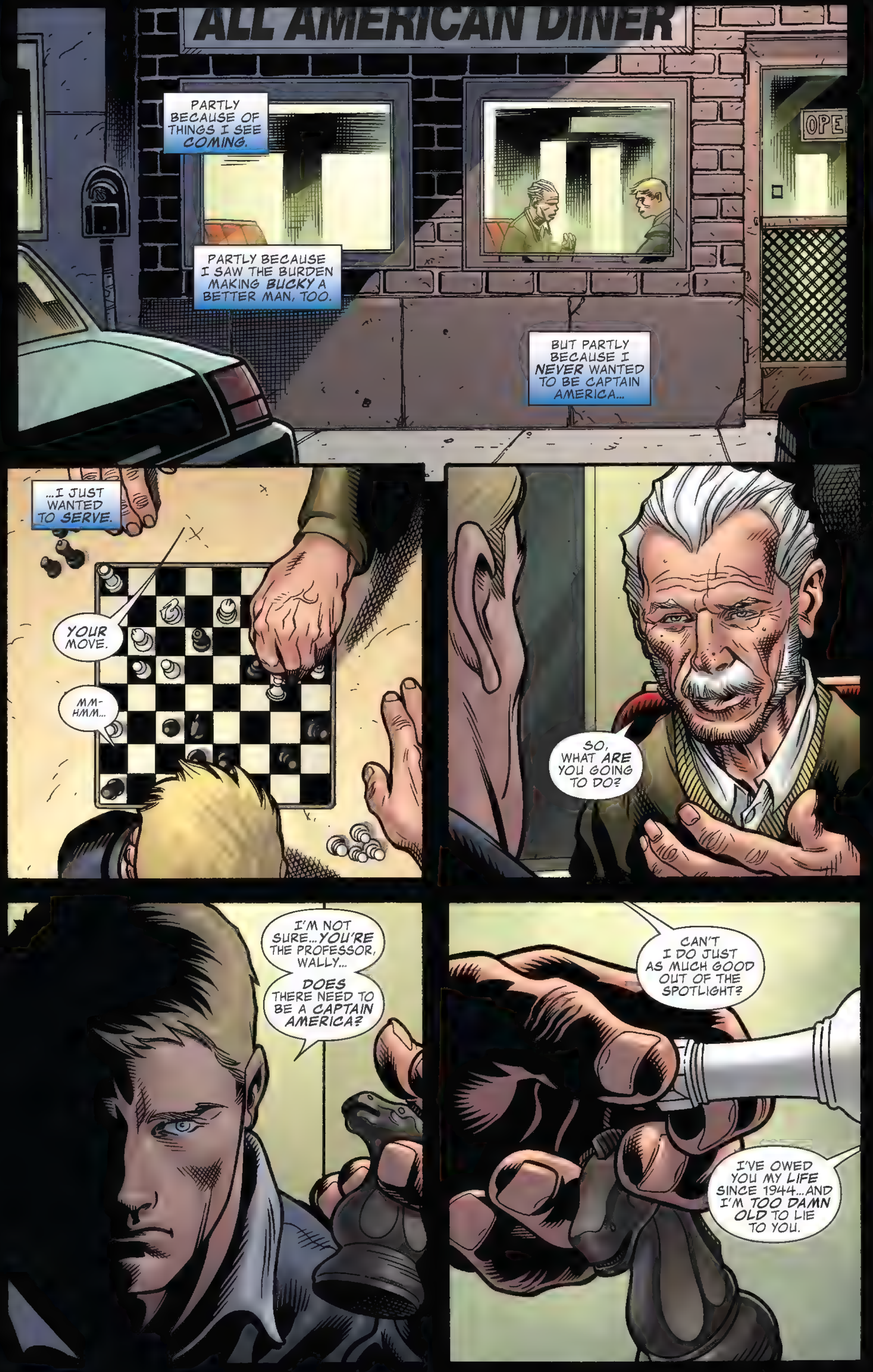

THAT I NEVER WANTED TO BE CAPTAIN AMERICA.

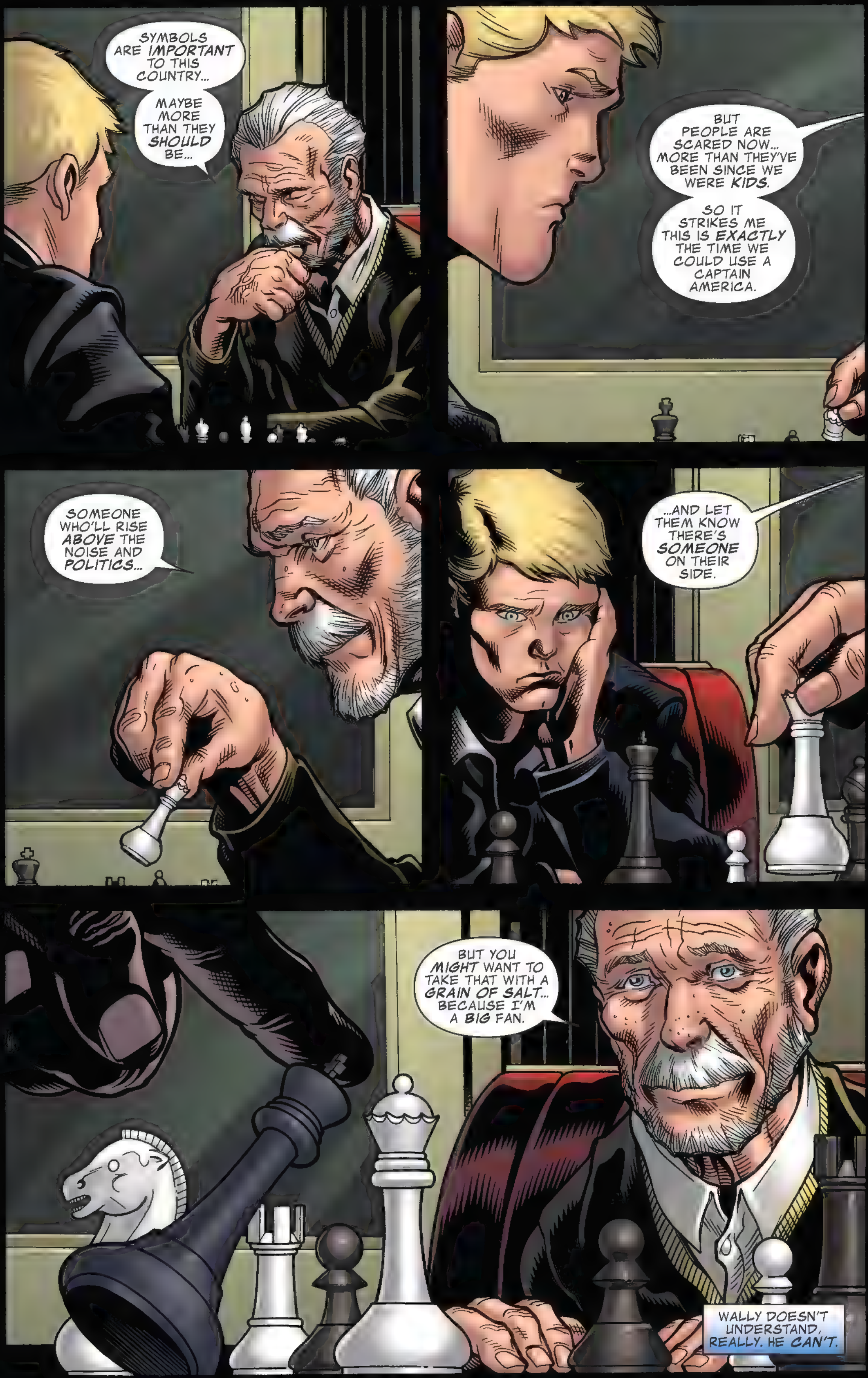

I WAS JUST SUPPOSED TO BE A SOLDIER.

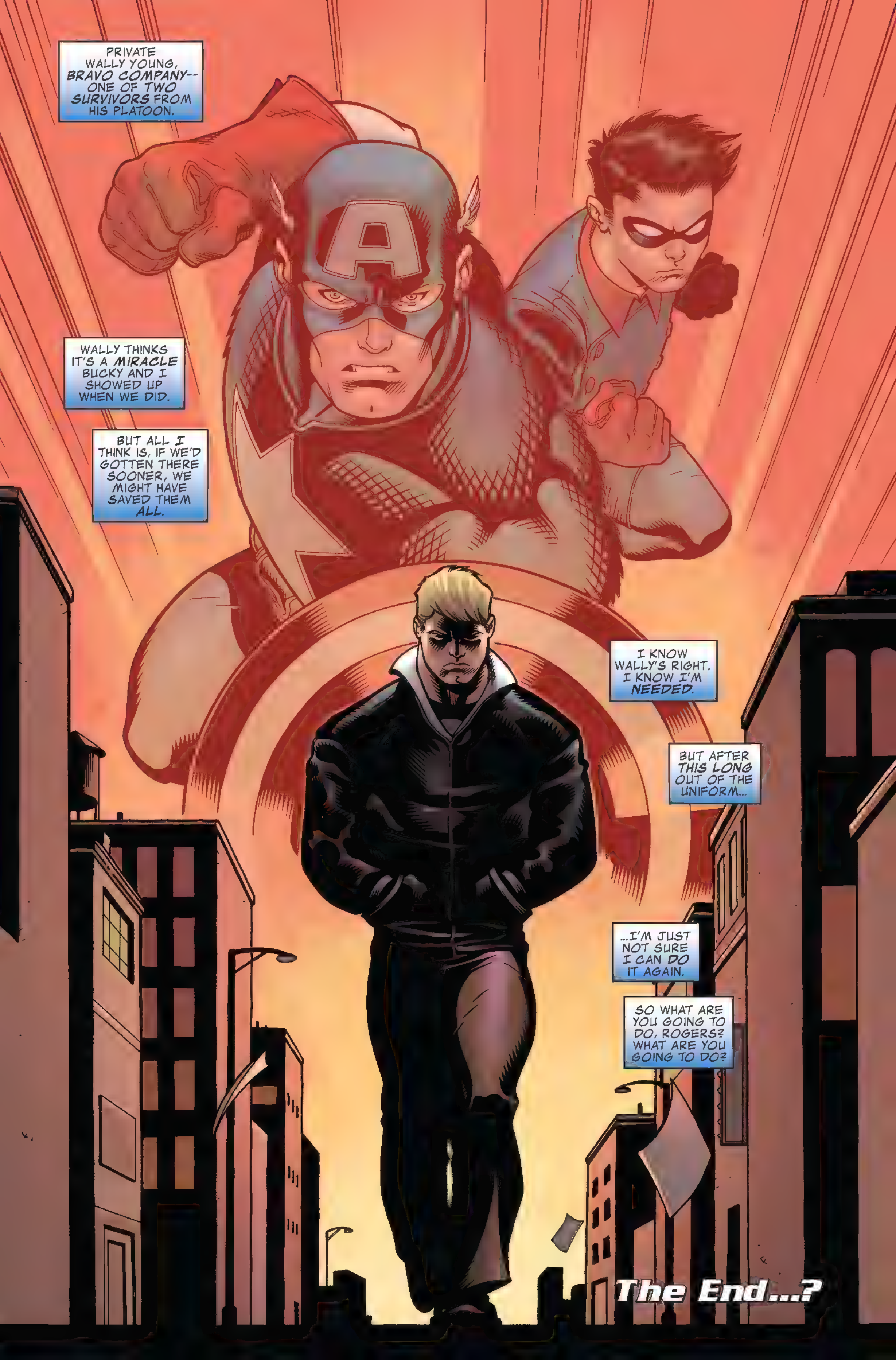

THE FIRST OF A *WHOLE PLATOON* OF MEN *LIKE ME.*
BUT AFTER PROFESSOR ERSKINE WAS *KILLED...*
...AND I WAS THE *ONLY ONE* OF MY KIND...
...I DID WHAT MY COUNTRY *ASKED* OF ME.
I BECAME A *SYMBOL* FIRST, AND THEN A SOLDIER.

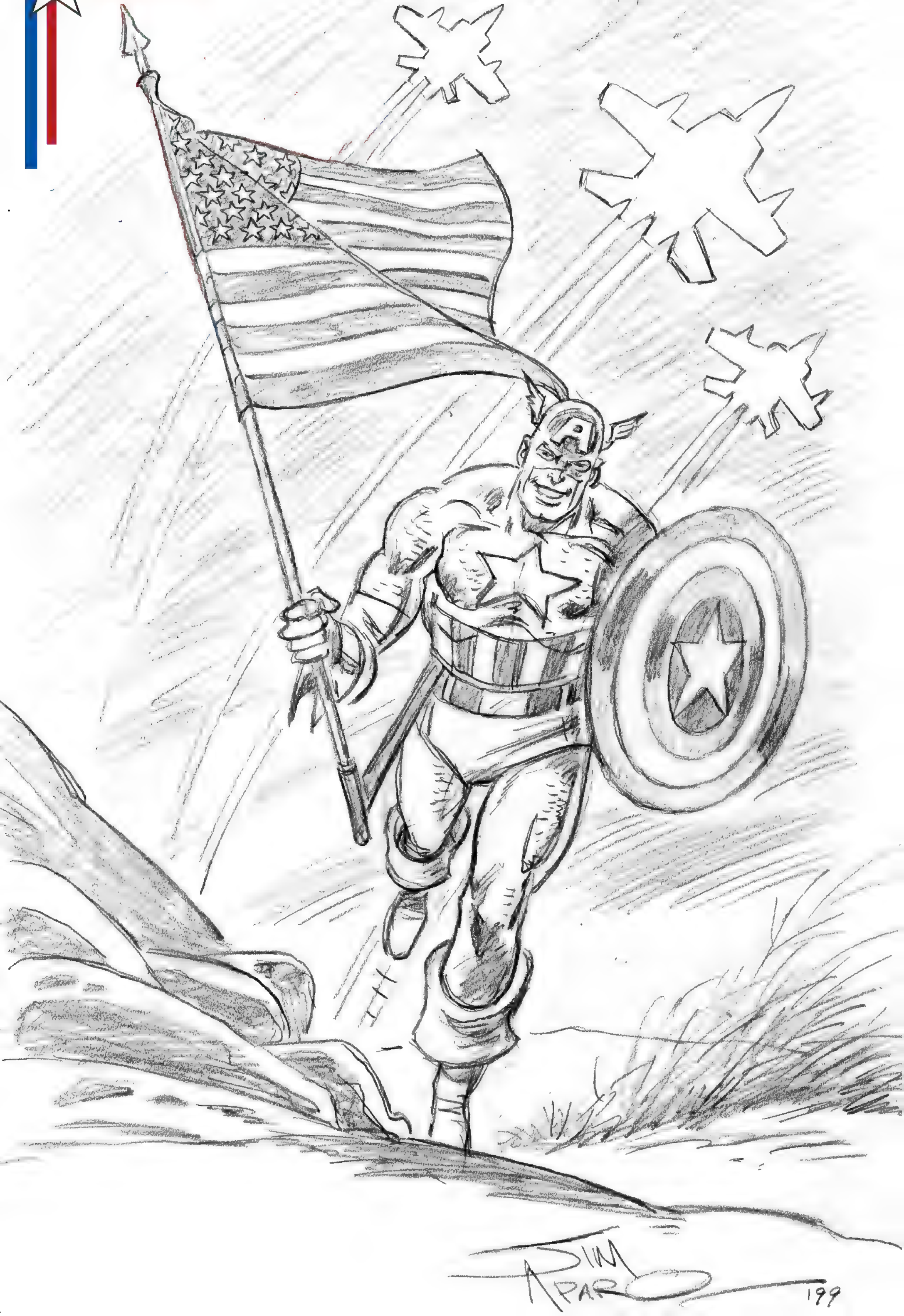

THAT SYMBOL WAS A BURDEN I *NEVER PLANNED* TO CARRY ONCE THE *WAR* WAS WON.
BUT I WASN'T THERE TO *SEE* THAT DAY.
INSTEAD I WOKE UP IN A *NEW WORLD*, SURROUNDED BY OTHER PEOPLE IN *MASKS*.
AND FOUND I WAS STILL NEEDED.


AND BEING AMERICA'S SYMBOL HAD MADE ME A BETTER MAN.
SO EVEN THOUGH THE BURDEN CONSUMED MY LIFE...
...AND NEARLY COST ME EVERYTHING...
...I CARRIED IT WILLINGLY.
I'VE RARELY TRIED TO FIND A LIFE OUTSIDE THOSE STARS AND STRIPES.
BUT SINCE I CAME BACK... I HAVEN'T WANTED THEM.


ALL AMERICAN DINER
OPE
PARTLY BECAUSE OF THINGS I SEE *COMING.*
PARTLY BECAUSE I SAW THE BURDEN MAKING *BUCKY* A BETTER MAN, TOO.
BUT PARTLY BECAUSE I *NEVER* WANTED TO BE CAPTAIN AMERICA...
...I JUST WANTED TO *SERVE.*
YOUR MOVE.
MM-HMM...
SO, WHAT *ARE* YOU GOING TO DO?
I'M NOT SURE...*YOU'RE* THE PROFESSOR, WALLY...
DOES THERE NEED TO BE A *CAPTAIN AMERICA?*
CAN'T I DO JUST AS MUCH GOOD OUT OF THE SPOTLIGHT?
I'VE OWED YOU MY *LIFE* SINCE 1944...AND I'M *TOO DAMN OLD* TO LIE TO YOU.


SYMBOLS ARE *IMPORTANT* TO THIS COUNTRY...
MAYBE MORE THAN THEY *SHOULD* BE...
BUT PEOPLE ARE SCARED NOW... MORE THAN THEY'VE BEEN SINCE WE WERE *KIDS*.
SO IT STRIKES ME THIS IS *EXACTLY* THE TIME WE COULD USE A CAPTAIN AMERICA.
SOMEONE WHO'LL RISE *ABOVE* THE NOISE AND *POLITICS*...
...AND LET THEM KNOW THERE'S *SOMEONE* ON THEIR SIDE.
BUT YOU *MIGHT* WANT TO TAKE THAT WITH A *GRAIN OF SALT*... BECAUSE I'M A *BIG* FAN.
WALLY DOESN'T UNDERSTAND, REALLY. HE *CAN'T*.

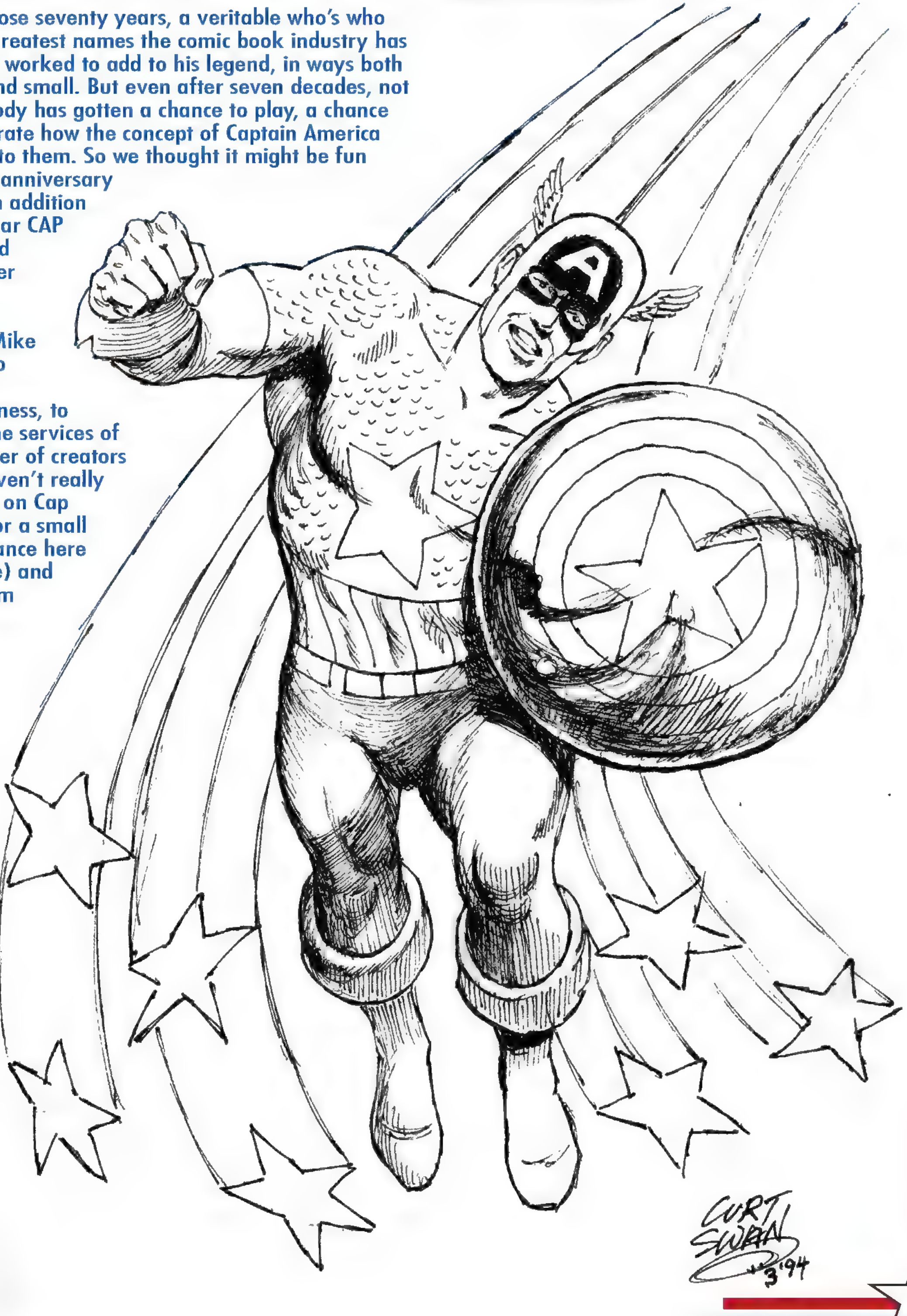

PRIVATE WALLY YOUNG, BRAVO COMPANY--ONE OF TWO SURVIVORS FROM HIS PLATOON.
WALLY THINKS IT'S A MIRACLE BUCKY AND I SHOWED UP WHEN WE DID.
BUT ALL I THINK IS, IF WE'D GOTTEN THERE SOONER, WE MIGHT HAVE SAVED THEM ALL.
I KNOW WALLY'S RIGHT. I KNOW I'M NEEDED.
BUT AFTER THIS LONG OUT OF THE UNIFORM...
...I'M JUST NOT SURE I CAN DO IT AGAIN.
SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, ROGERS? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
The End...?


JIM APARO
199

Seventy years ago this month, a red, white and blue icon first delivered a sock to the jaw of a real-life would-be world conqueror and entered the pantheon of truly great comic book super heroes. Captain America carries the singular honor of being the first Marvel character to have been launched in his own title (as opposed to having proven his mettle beforehand in a then-common anthology series.) He was, from the very first, an important character, one who reflected the very real concerns and love of country as his readers. He was as much a symbol as he was a man.

Over those seventy years, a veritable who's who of the greatest names the comic book industry has to offer worked to add to his legend, in ways both large and small. But even after seven decades, not everybody has gotten a chance to play, a chance to illustrate how the concept of Captain America speaks to them. So we thought it might be fun for this anniversary issue, in addition to regular CAP scribe Ed Brubaker and his guest-artists Mike Deodato and Ed McGuinness, to enlist the services of a number of creators who haven't really worked on Cap (save for a small appearance here or there) and ask them to tell a story that in some way sums up what Captain America means to them.

Additionally, thanks to the efforts of art representative extraordinaire Spencer Beck, we've got a pair of pieces penciled as commissions by two legends of the industry who are no longer with us, Curt Swan and Jim Aparo, neither of whom ever worked on Captain America as far as we can recall. But it is an honor to have them represented here as well, for all that Captain America has meant to entire generations of readers and creators.



OPAQUE SHADOWS

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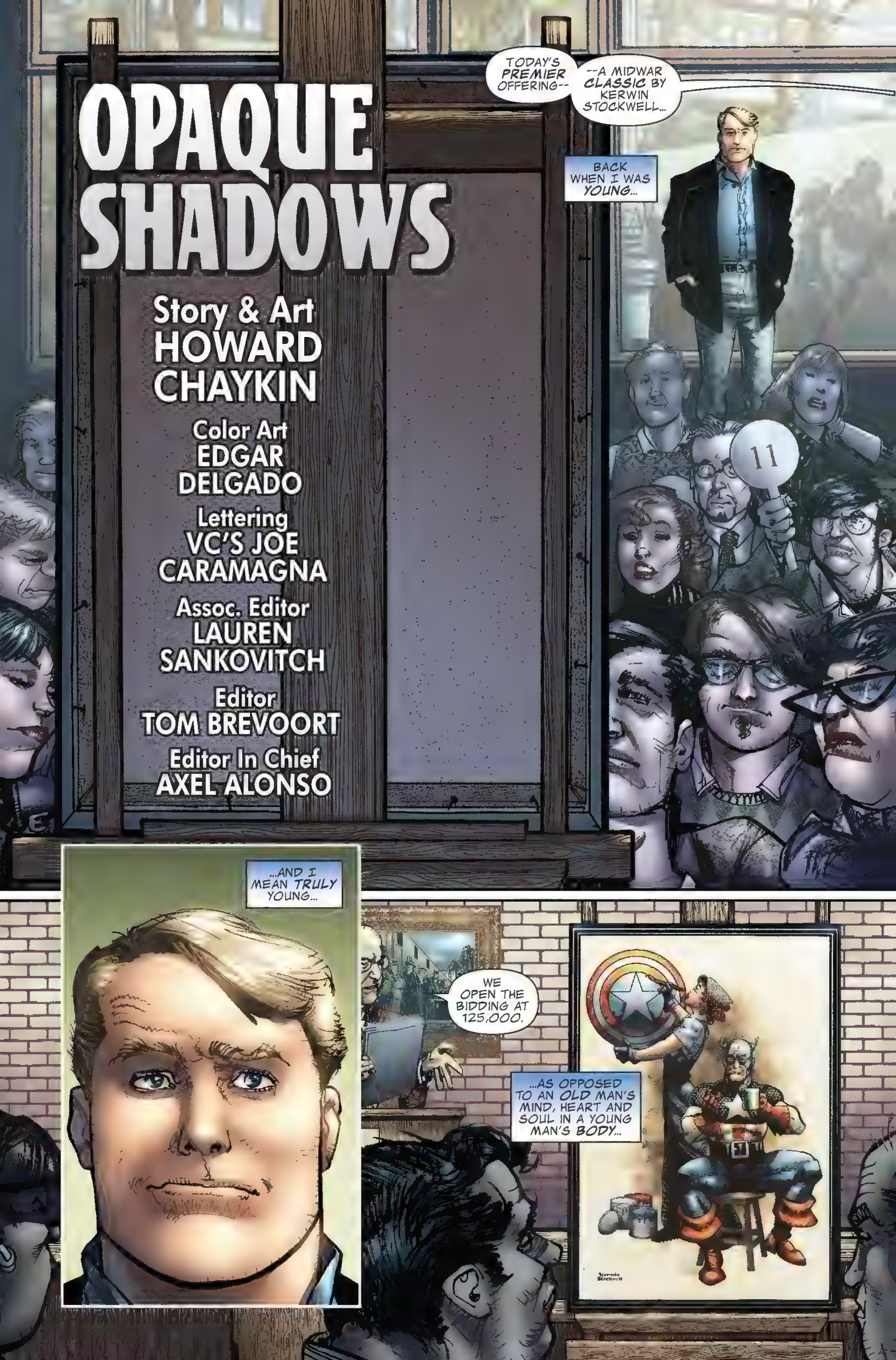
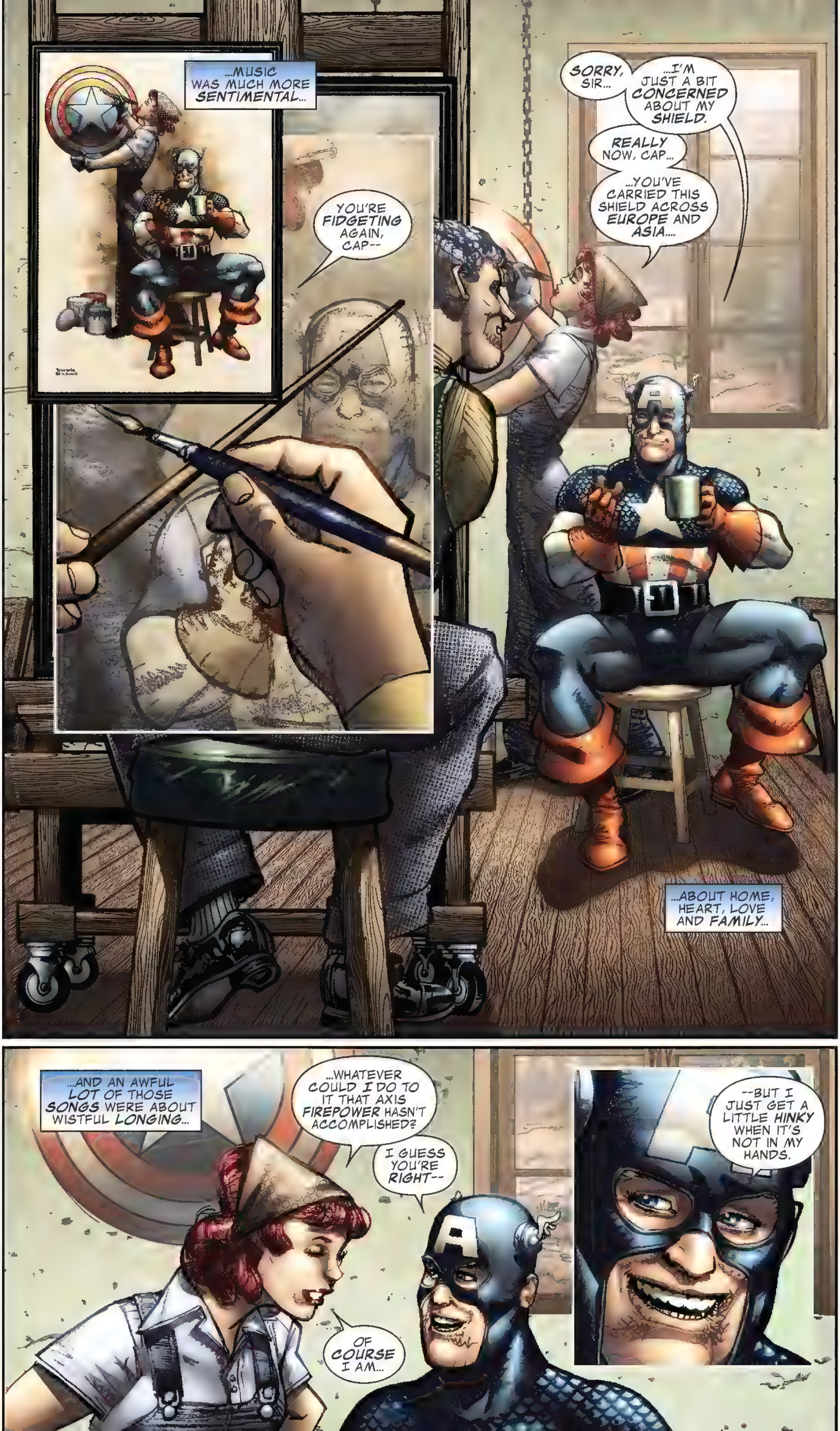
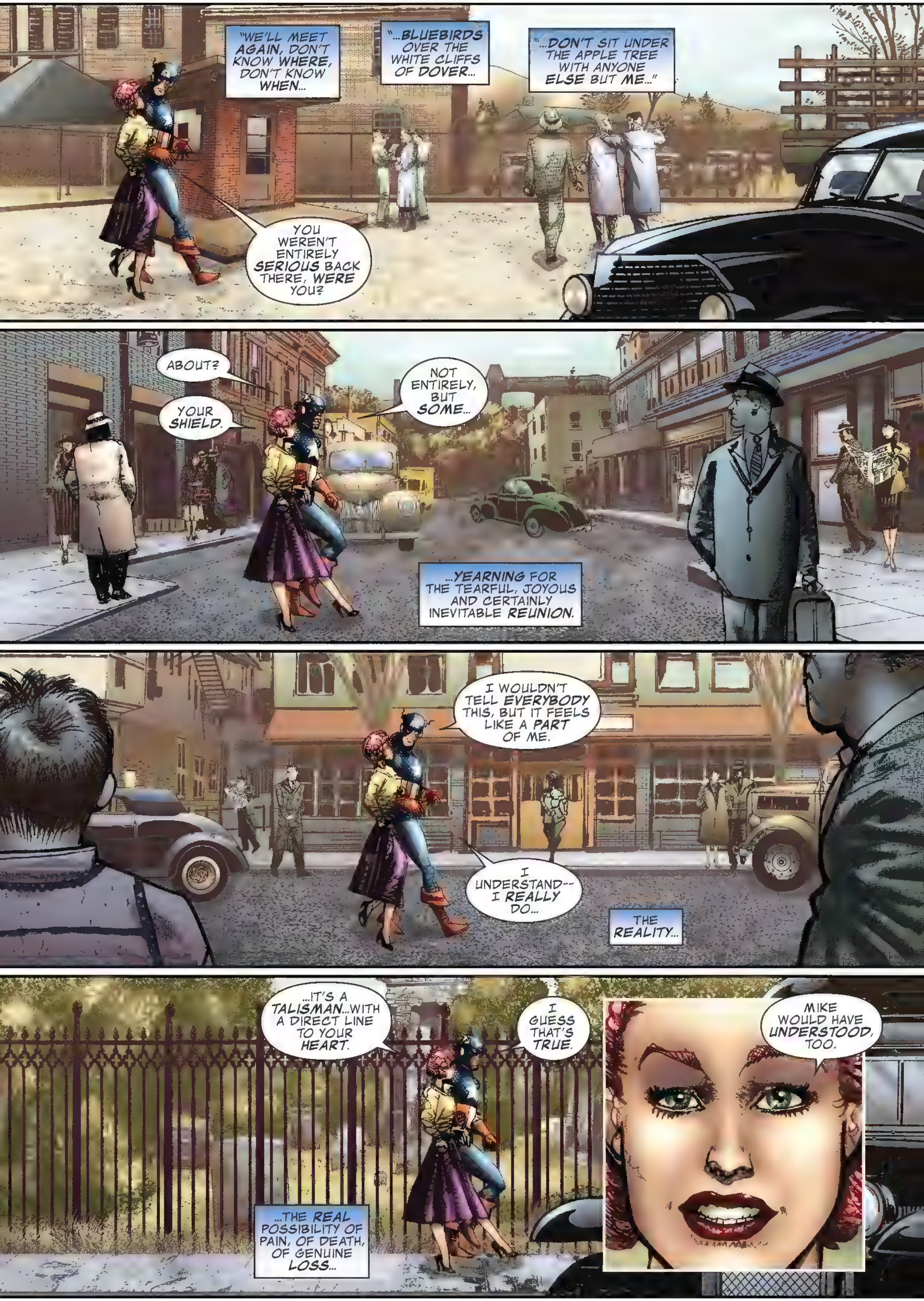
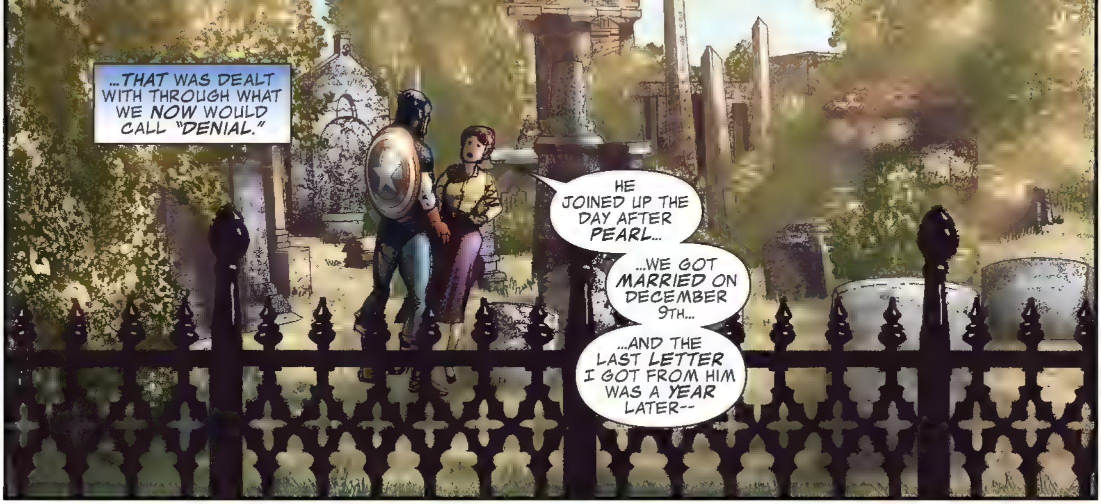
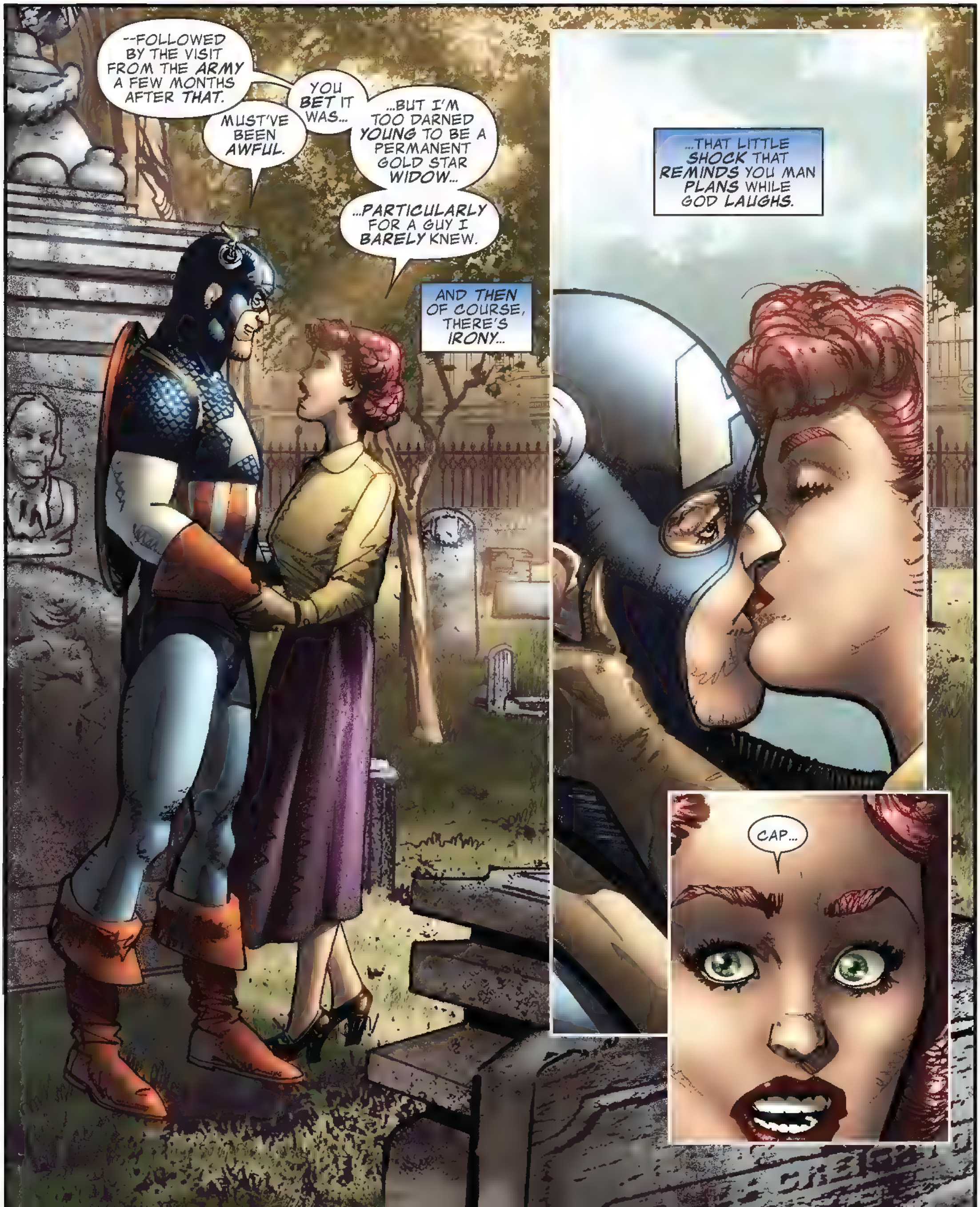
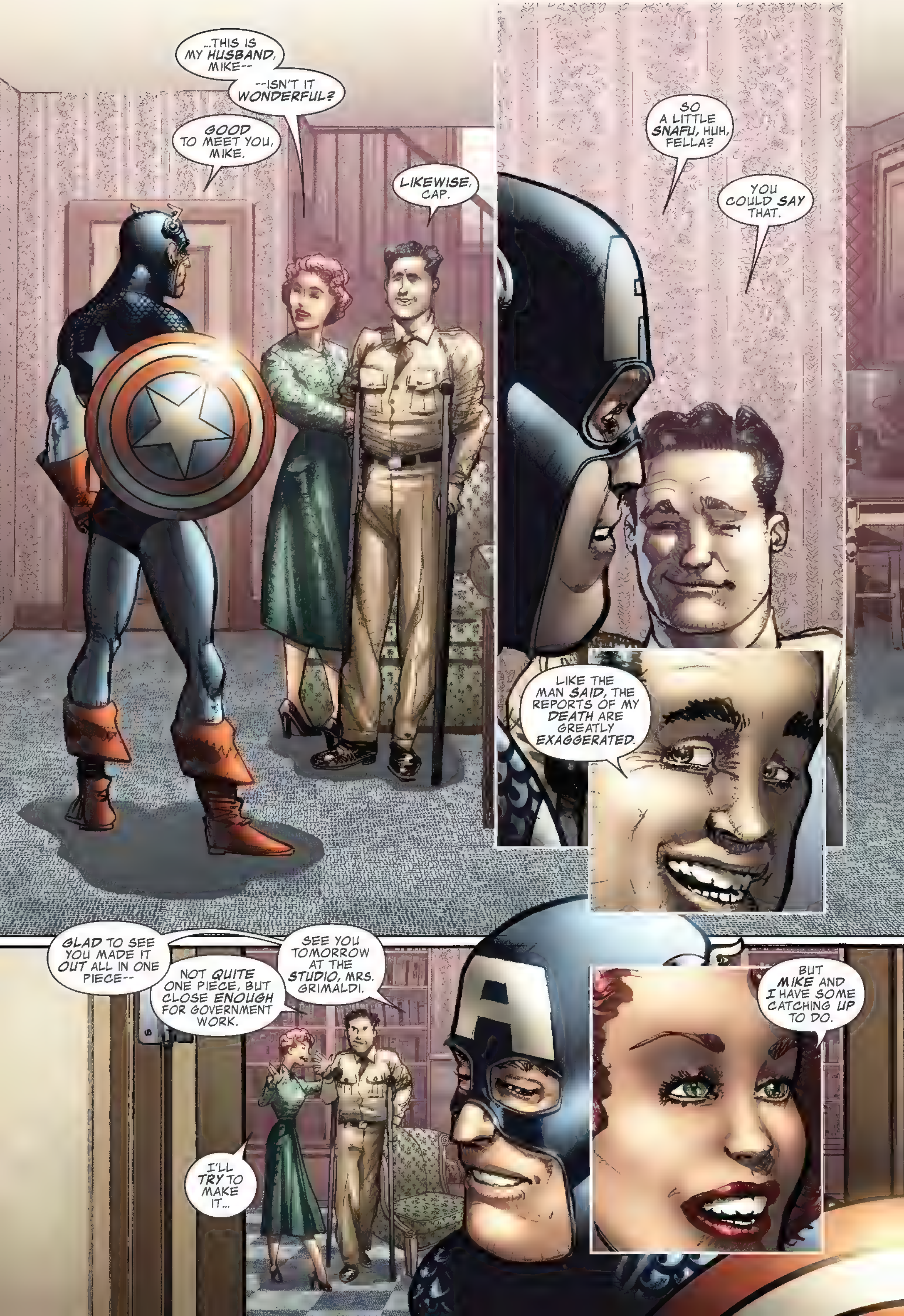

TODAY'S *PREMIER* OFFERING--
--A MIDWAR *CLASSIC* BY KERWIN STOCKWELL...
BACK WHEN I WAS *YOUNG*...
11
...AND I MEAN *TRULY* YOUNG...
WE OPEN THE BIDDING AT 125,000.
...AS OPPOSED TO AN *OLD* MAN'S MIND, HEART AND SOUL IN A YOUNG MAN'S *BODY*...
Kerwin Stockwell

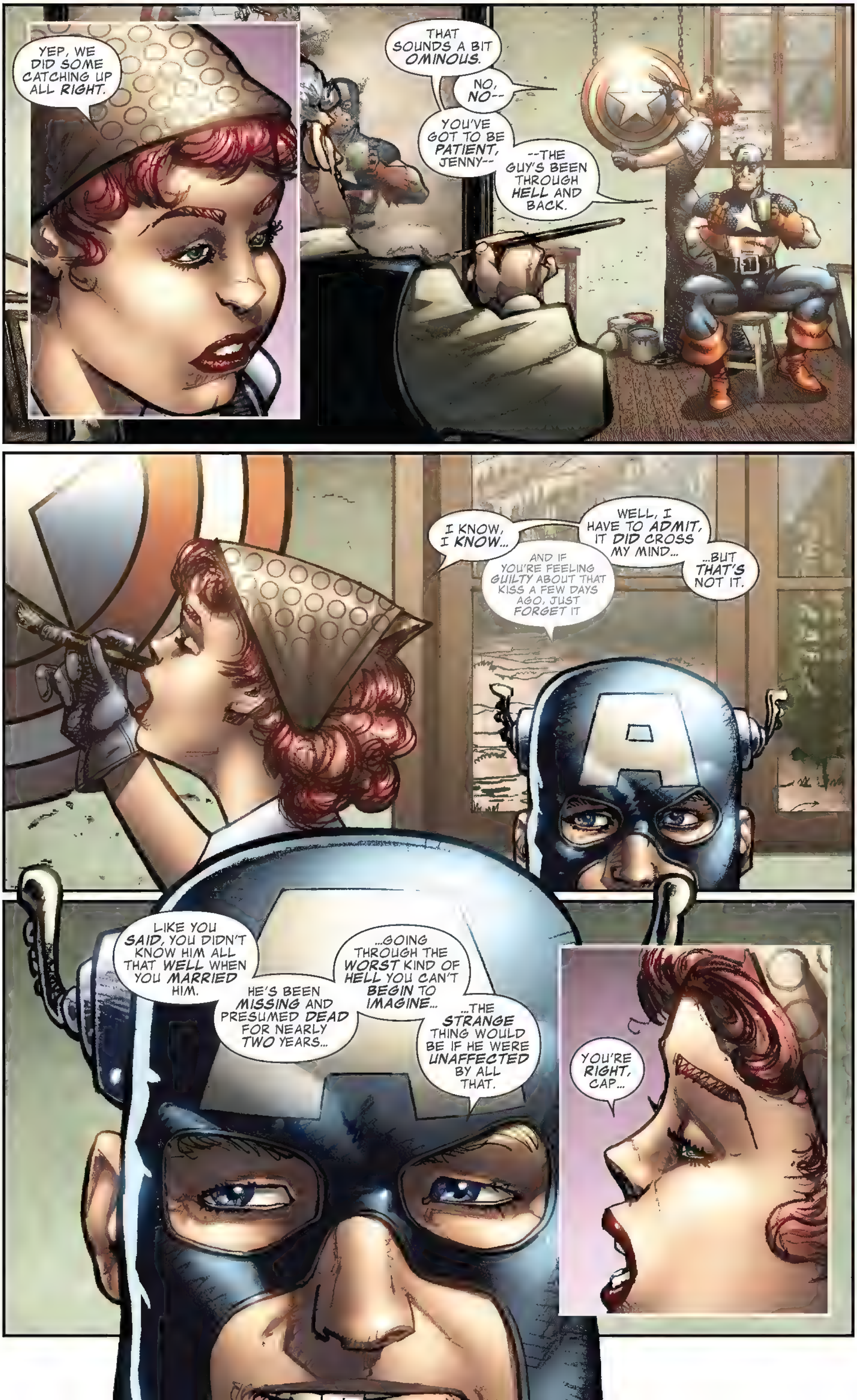

...MUSIC WAS MUCH MORE SENTIMENTAL...
YOU'RE FIDGETING AGAIN, CAP--
SORRY, SIR...
...I'M JUST A BIT CONCERNED ABOUT MY SHIELD.
REALLY NOW, CAP...
...YOU'VE CARRIED THIS SHIELD ACROSS EUROPE AND ASIA....
...ABOUT HOME, HEART, LOVE AND FAMILY...
...AND AN AWFUL LOT OF THOSE SONGS WERE ABOUT WISTFUL LONGING...
...WHATEVER COULD I DO TO IT THAT AXIS FIREPOWER HASN'T ACCOMPLISHED?
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT--
--BUT I JUST GET A LITTLE HINKY WHEN IT'S NOT IN MY HANDS.
OF COURSE I AM...

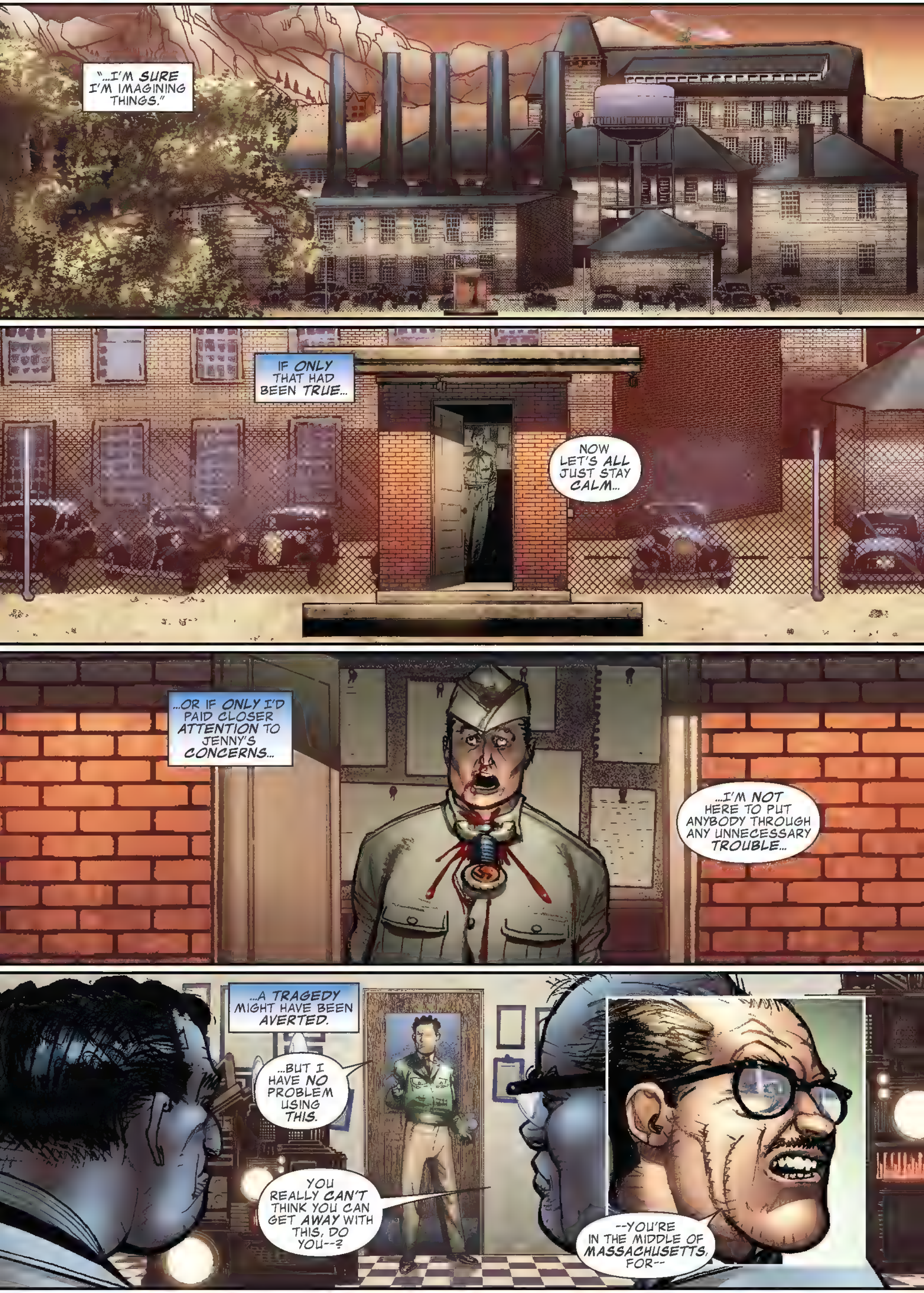

"WE'LL MEET AGAIN, DON'T KNOW WHERE, DON'T KNOW WHEN...
"...BLUEBIRDS OVER THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER...
"...DON'T SIT UNDER THE APPLE TREE WITH ANYONE ELSE BUT ME..."
YOU WEREN'T ENTIRELY SERIOUS BACK THERE, WERE YOU?
ABOUT?
YOUR SHIELD.
NOT ENTIRELY, BUT SOME...
...YEARNING FOR THE TEARFUL, JOYOUS AND CERTAINLY INEVITABLE REUNION.
I WOULDN'T TELL EVERYBODY THIS, BUT IT FEELS LIKE A PART OF ME.
I UNDERSTAND-- I REALLY DO...
THE REALITY...
...IT'S A TALISMAN...WITH A DIRECT LINE TO YOUR HEART.
I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.
...THE REAL POSSIBILITY OF PAIN, OF DEATH, OF GENUINE LOSS...
MIKE WOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD, TOO.

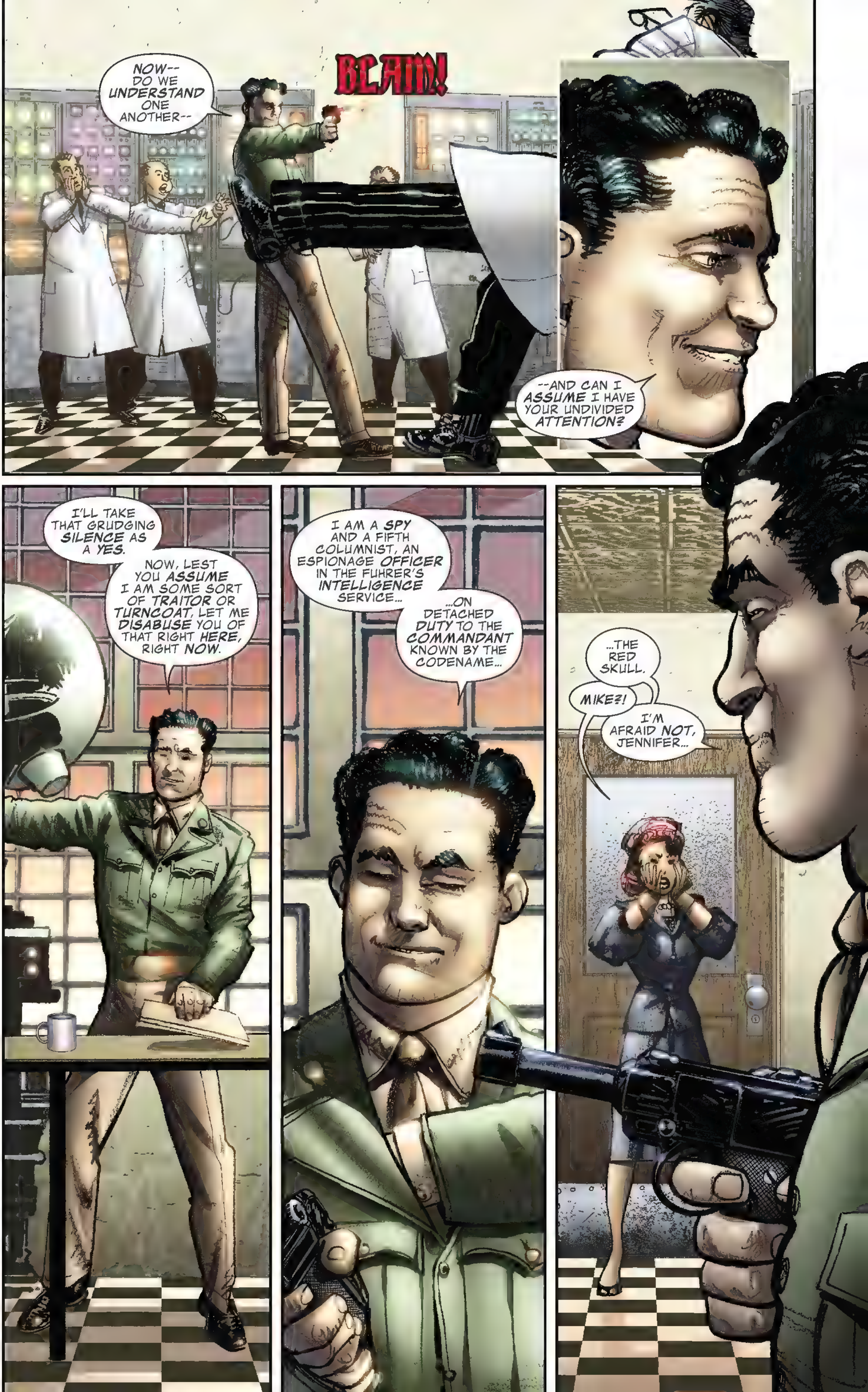

...THAT WAS DEALT WITH THROUGH WHAT WE NOW WOULD CALL "DENIAL."
HE JOINED UP THE DAY AFTER PEARL...
...WE GOT MARRIED ON DECEMBER 9TH...
...AND THE LAST LETTER I GOT FROM HIM WAS A YEAR LATER--

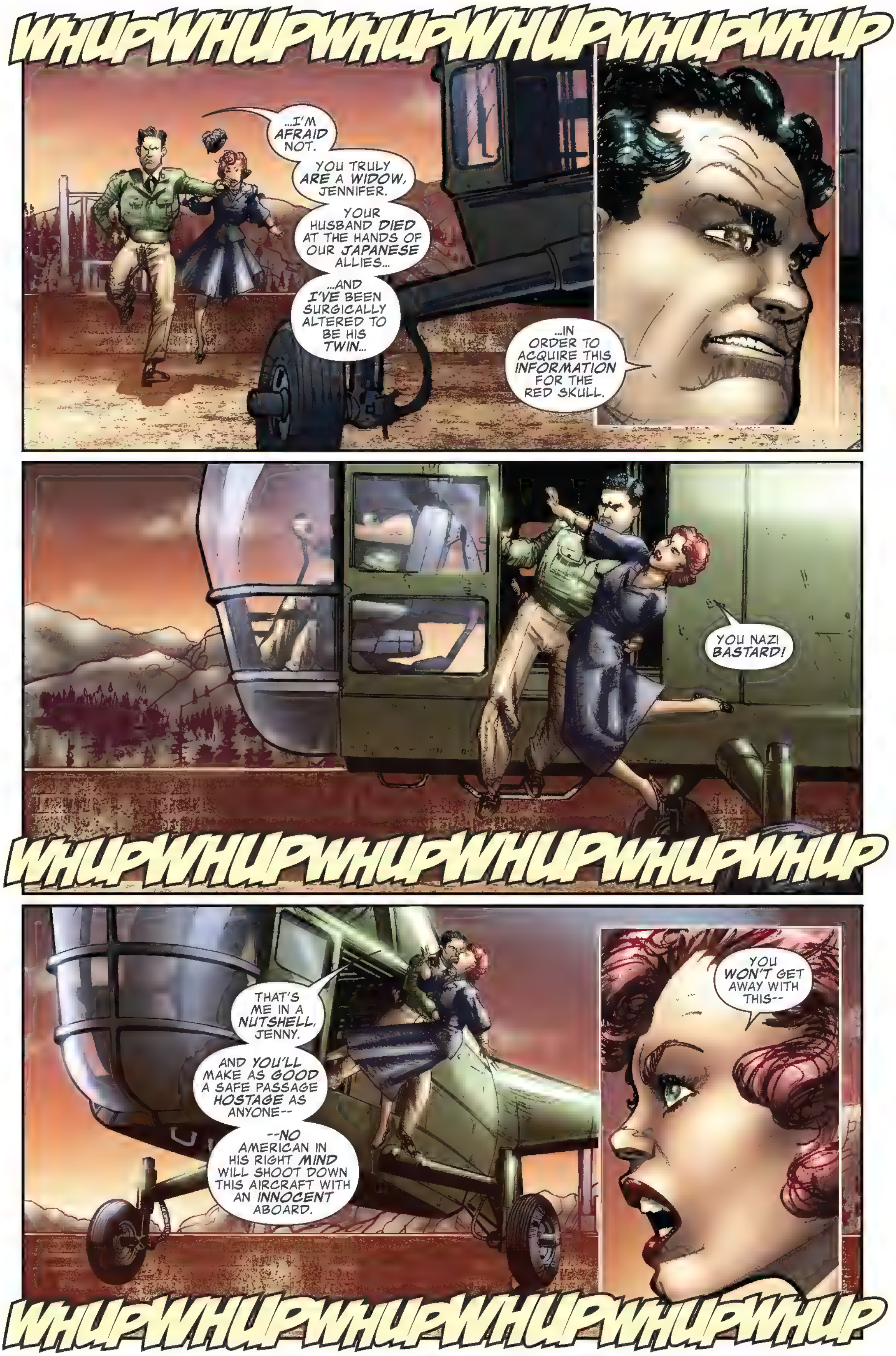

--FOLLOWED BY THE VISIT FROM THE ARMY A FEW MONTHS AFTER THAT.
MUST'VE BEEN AWFUL.
YOU BET IT WAS...
...BUT I'M TOO DARNED YOUNG TO BE A PERMANENT GOLD STAR WIDOW...
...PARTICULARLY FOR A GUY I BARELY KNEW.
AND THEN OF COURSE, THERE'S IRONY...
...THAT LITTLE SHOCK THAT REMINDS YOU MAN PLANS WHILE GOD LAUGHS.
CAP...

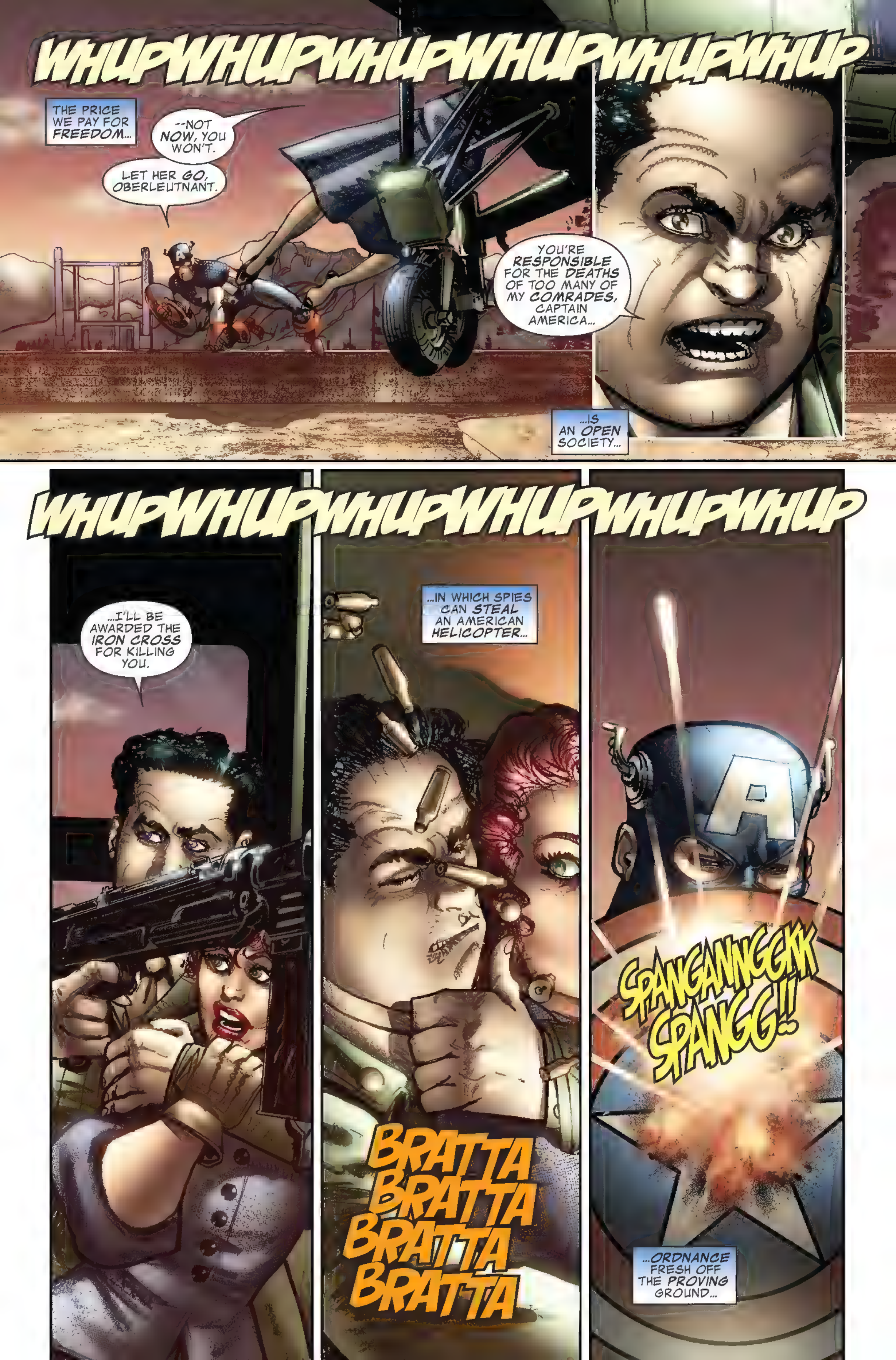

...THIS IS MY **HUSBAND,** MIKE--
--ISN'T IT **WONDERFUL?**
GOOD TO MEET YOU, MIKE.
LIKEWISE, CAP.
SO A LITTLE **SNAFU,** HUH, FELLA?
YOU COULD **SAY** THAT.
LIKE THE MAN **SAID,** THE REPORTS OF MY **DEATH** ARE GREATLY **EXAGGERATED.**
GLAD TO SEE YOU MADE IT **OUT** ALL IN ONE PIECE--
NOT **QUITE** ONE PIECE, BUT CLOSE **ENOUGH** FOR GOVERNMENT WORK.
SEE YOU TOMORROW AT THE **STUDIO,** MRS. GRIMALDI.
I'LL **TRY** TO MAKE IT...
BUT **MIKE** AND **I** HAVE SOME CATCHING **UP** TO DO.

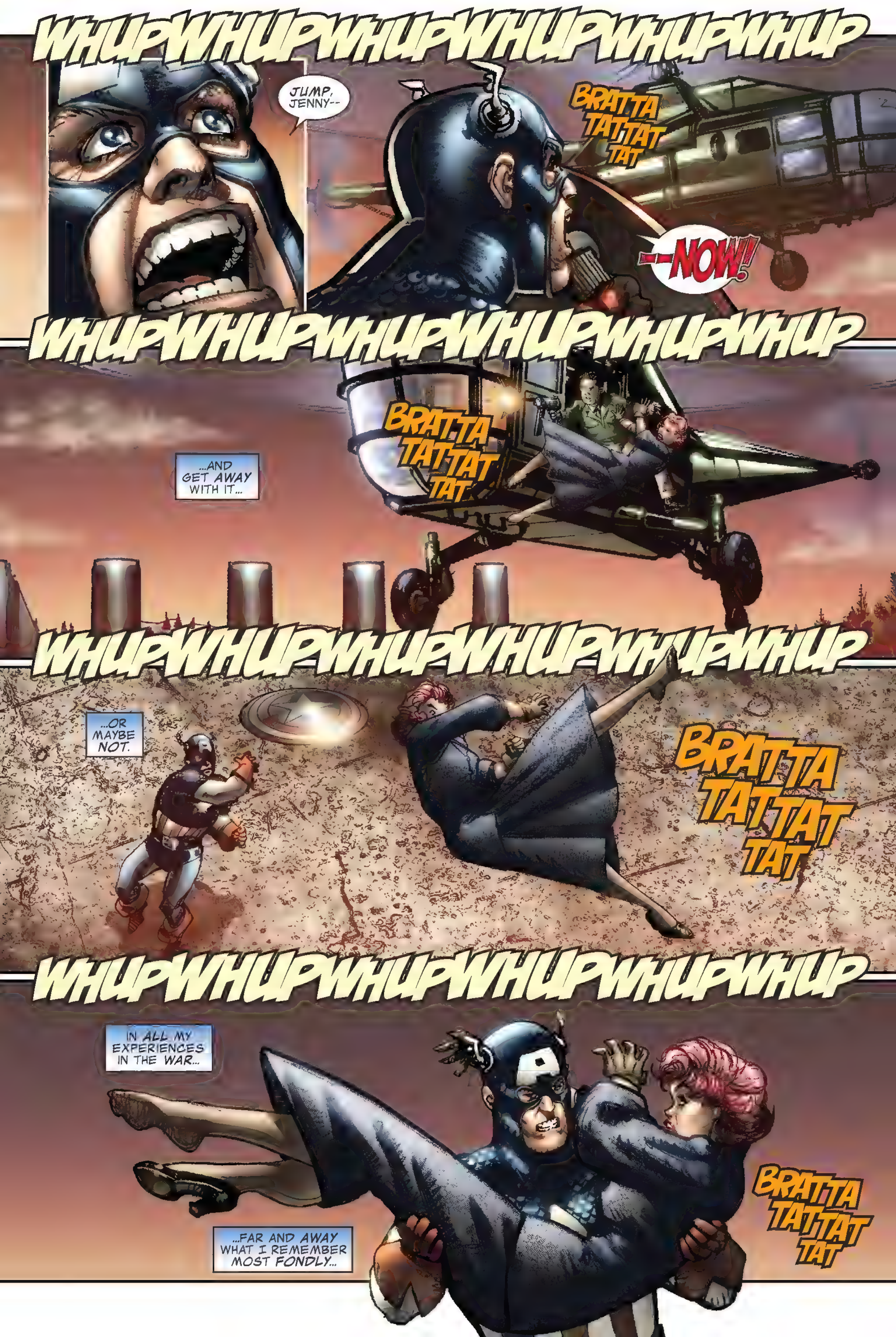

YEP, WE DID SOME CATCHING UP ALL RIGHT.
THAT SOUNDS A BIT OMINOUS.
NO, NO--
YOU'VE GOT TO BE PATIENT, JENNY--
--THE GUY'S BEEN THROUGH HELL AND BACK.
I KNOW, I KNOW...
AND IF YOU'RE FEELING GUILTY ABOUT THAT KISS A FEW DAYS AGO, JUST FORGET IT
WELL, I HAVE TO ADMIT, IT DID CROSS MY MIND...
...BUT THAT'S NOT IT.
LIKE YOU SAID, YOU DIDN'T KNOW HIM ALL THAT WELL WHEN YOU MARRIED HIM.
HE'S BEEN MISSING AND PRESUMED DEAD FOR NEARLY TWO YEARS...
...GOING THROUGH THE WORST KIND OF HELL YOU CAN'T BEGIN TO IMAGINE...
...THE STRANGE THING WOULD BE IF HE WERE UNAFFECTED BY ALL THAT.
YOU'RE RIGHT, CAP...

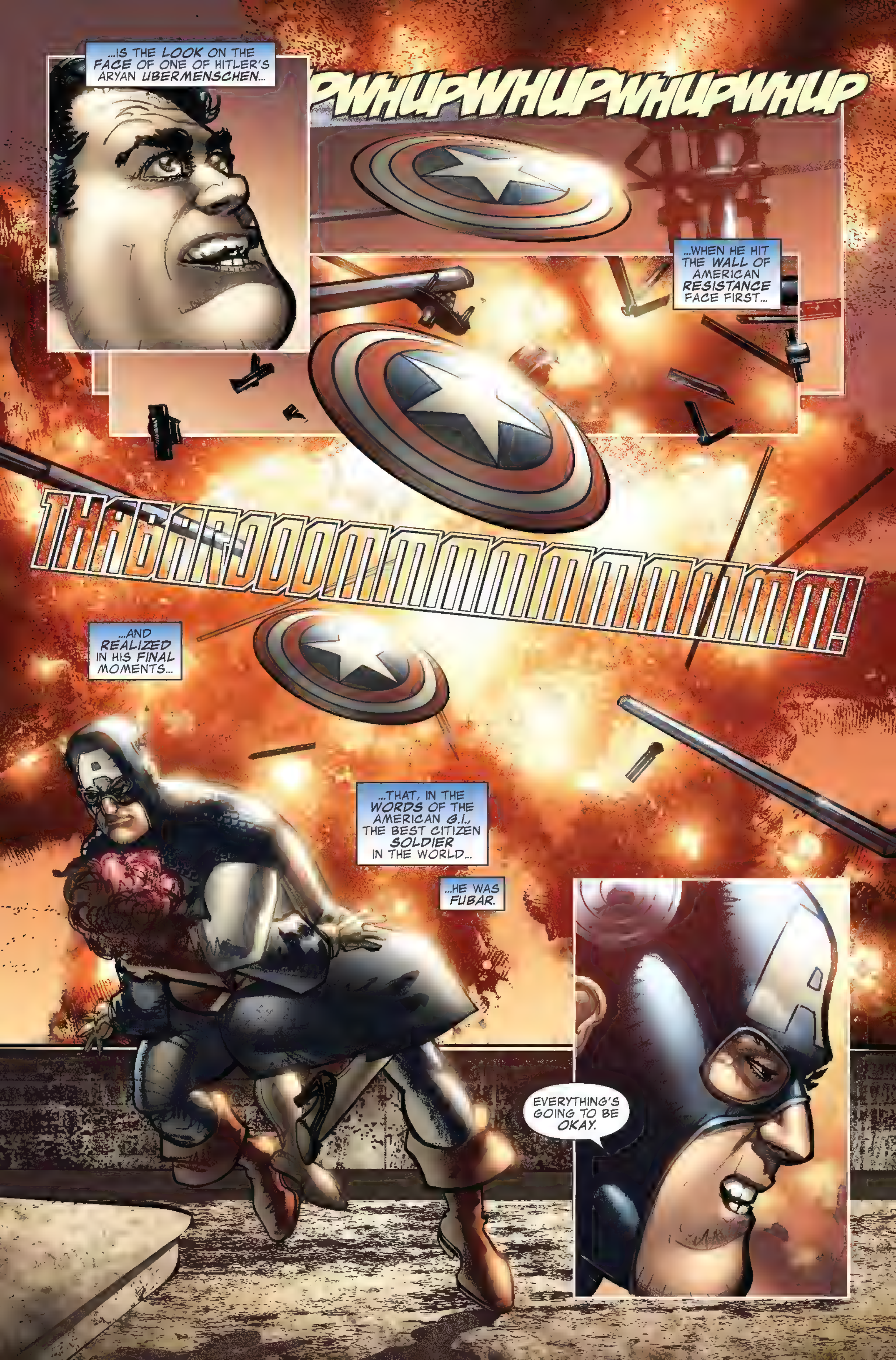

"...I'M SURE I'M IMAGINING THINGS."
IF ONLY THAT HAD BEEN TRUE...
NOW LET'S ALL JUST STAY CALM...
...OR IF ONLY I'D PAID CLOSER ATTENTION TO JENNY'S CONCERNS...
...I'M NOT HERE TO PUT ANYBODY THROUGH ANY UNNECESSARY TROUBLE...
...A TRAGEDY MIGHT HAVE BEEN AVERTED.
...BUT I HAVE NO PROBLEM USING THIS.
YOU REALLY CAN'T THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH THIS, DO YOU--?
--YOU'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF MASSACHUSETTS, FOR--

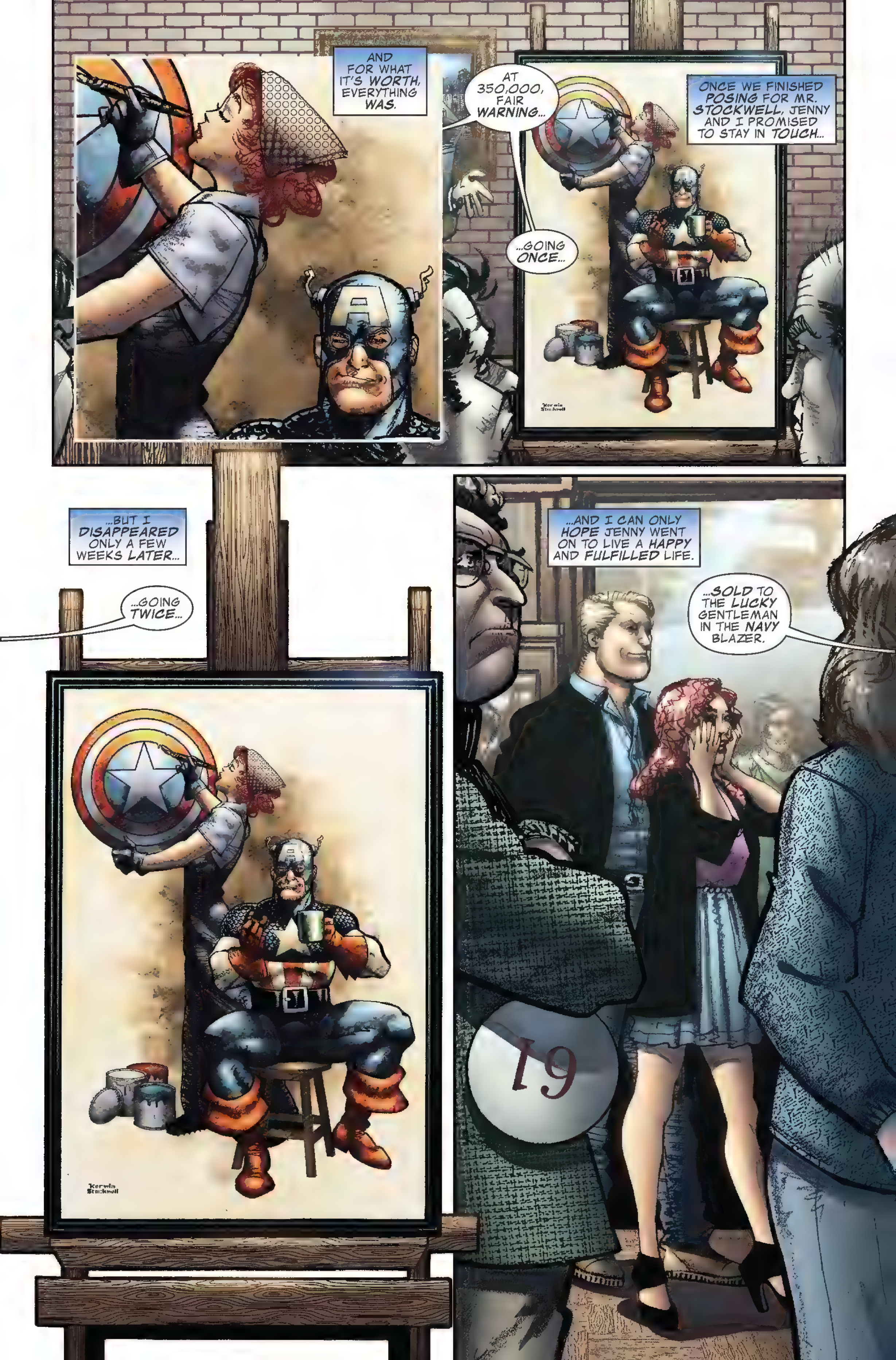

NOW-- DO WE UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER--
BLAM!
--AND CAN I ASSUME I HAVE YOUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION?
I'LL TAKE THAT GRUDGING SILENCE AS A YES.
NOW, LEST YOU ASSUME I AM SOME SORT OF TRAITOR OR TURNCOAT, LET ME DISABUSE YOU OF THAT RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW.
I AM A SPY AND A FIFTH COLUMNIST, AN ESPIONAGE OFFICER IN THE FUHRER'S INTELLIGENCE SERVICE...
...ON DETACHED DUTY TO THE COMMANDANT KNOWN BY THE CODENAME...
...THE RED SKULL.
MIKE?!
I'M AFRAID NOT, JENNIFER...

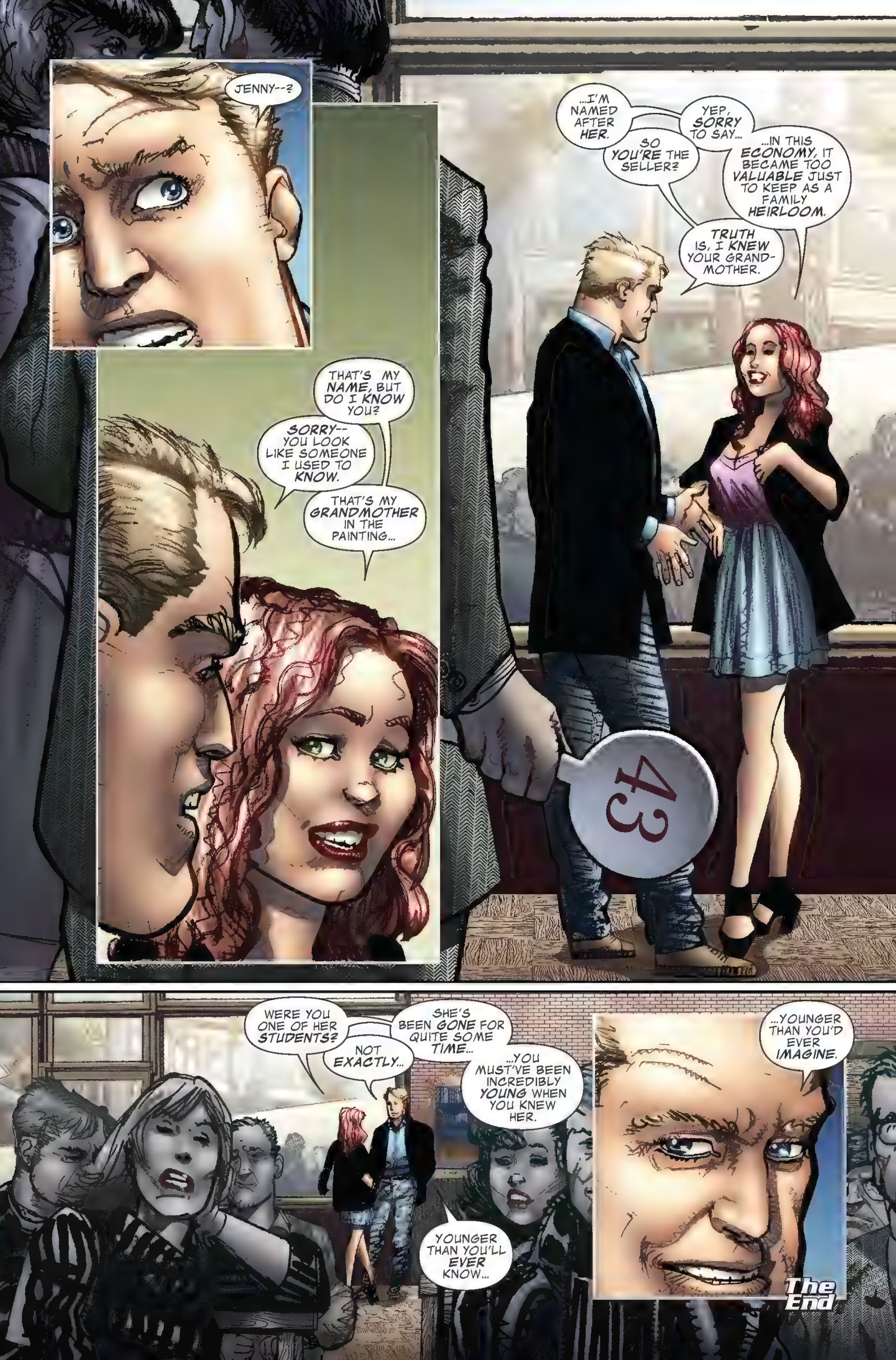

WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
...I'M AFRAID NOT.
YOU TRULY ARE A WIDOW, JENNIFER.
YOUR HUSBAND DIED AT THE HANDS OF OUR JAPANESE ALLIES...
...AND I'VE BEEN SURGICALLY ALTERED TO BE HIS TWIN...
...IN ORDER TO ACQUIRE THIS INFORMATION FOR THE RED SKULL.
YOU NAZI BASTARD!
WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
THAT'S ME IN A NUTSHELL, JENNY.
AND YOU'LL MAKE AS GOOD A SAFE PASSAGE HOSTAGE AS ANYONE--
--NO AMERICAN IN HIS RIGHT MIND WILL SHOOT DOWN THIS AIRCRAFT WITH AN INNOCENT ABOARD.
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS--
WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP

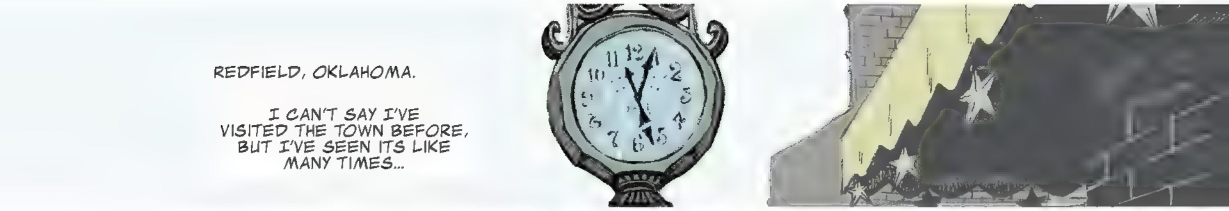

WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
THE PRICE WE PAY FOR FREEDOM...
--NOT NOW, YOU WON'T.
LET HER GO, OBERLEUTNANT.
YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF TOO MANY OF MY COMRADES, CAPTAIN AMERICA...
...IS AN OPEN SOCIETY...
WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
...I'LL BE AWARDED THE IRON CROSS FOR KILLING YOU.
...IN WHICH SPIES CAN STEAL AN AMERICAN HELICOPTER...
BRATTA BRATTA BRATTA BRATTA
SPANGANNGGKK SPANGG!!
...ORDNANCE FRESH OFF THE PROVING GROUND...

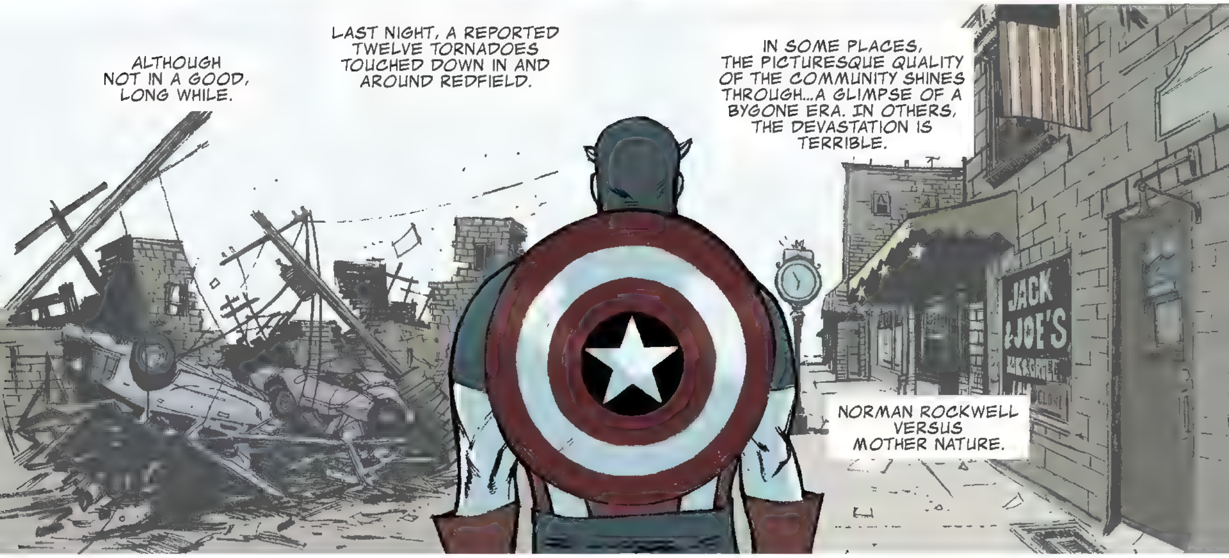

WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
JUMP, JENNY--
BRATTA TATTAT TAT
--NOW!
WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
...AND GET AWAY WITH IT...
BRATTA TATTAT TAT
WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
...OR MAYBE NOT.
BRATTA TATTAT TAT
WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
IN ALL MY EXPERIENCES IN THE WAR...
...FAR AND AWAY WHAT I REMEMBER MOST FONDLY...
BRATTA TATTAT TAT

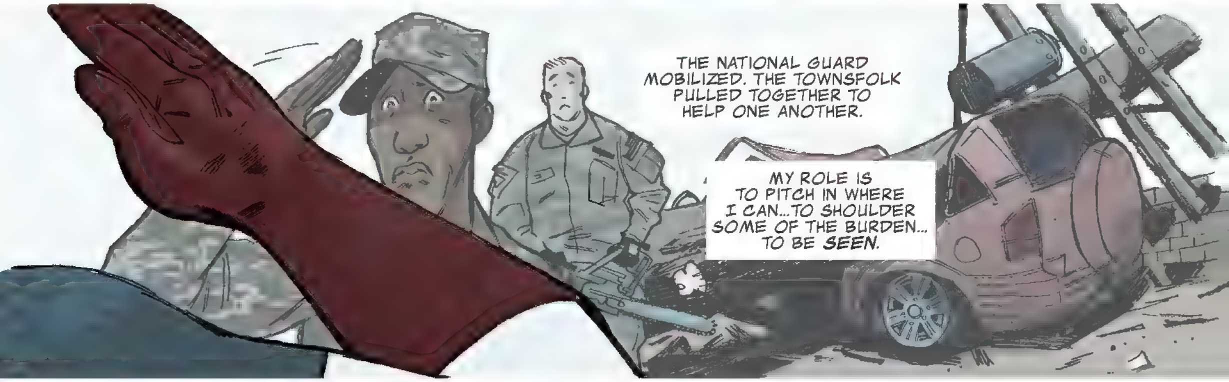

...IS THE LOOK ON THE FACE OF ONE OF HITLER'S ARYAN UBERMENSCHEN...
PWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
...WHEN HE HIT THE WALL OF AMERICAN RESISTANCE FACE FIRST...
THBARDOOOMMMMMMMMMMMM!
...AND REALIZED IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS...
...THAT, IN THE WORDS OF THE AMERICAN G.I., THE BEST CITIZEN SOLDIER IN THE WORLD...
...HE WAS FUBAR.
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE OKAY.

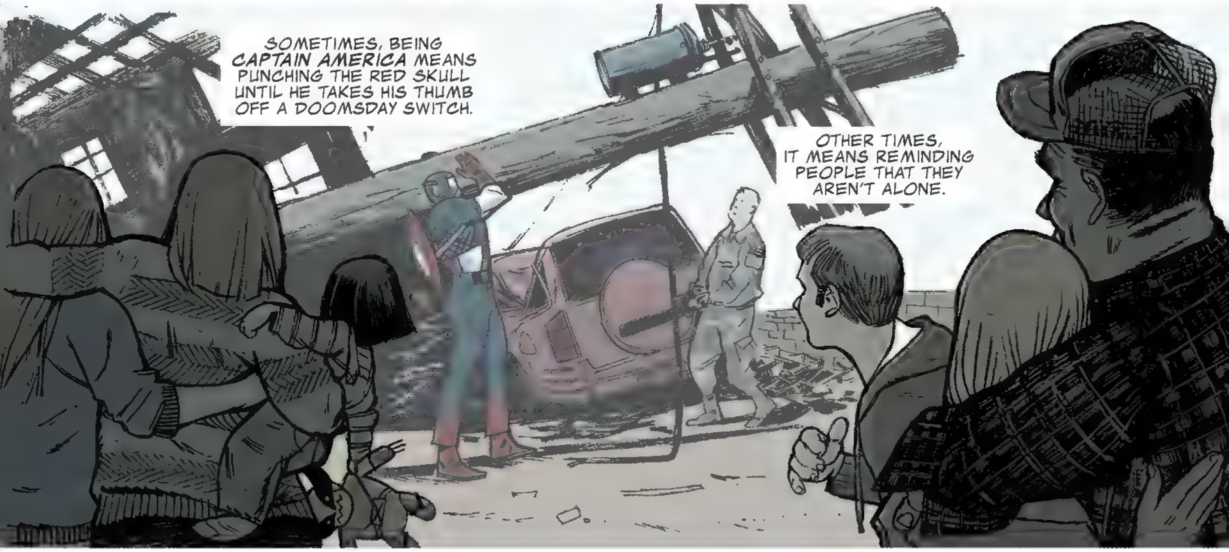

AND FOR WHAT IT'S *WORTH*, EVERYTHING *WAS*.
AT 350,000, FAIR *WARNING*...
...GOING *ONCE*...
ONCE WE FINISHED *POSING* FOR MR. *STOCKWELL*, JENNY AND I PROMISED TO STAY IN *TOUCH*...
Kerwin Stockwell
...BUT I *DISAPPEARED* ONLY A FEW WEEKS *LATER*...
...GOING *TWICE*...
Kerwin Stockwell
...AND I CAN ONLY *HOPE* JENNY WENT ON TO LIVE A *HAPPY* AND *FULFILLED* LIFE.
...*SOLD* TO THE *LUCKY* GENTLEMAN IN THE *NAVY* BLAZER.
19

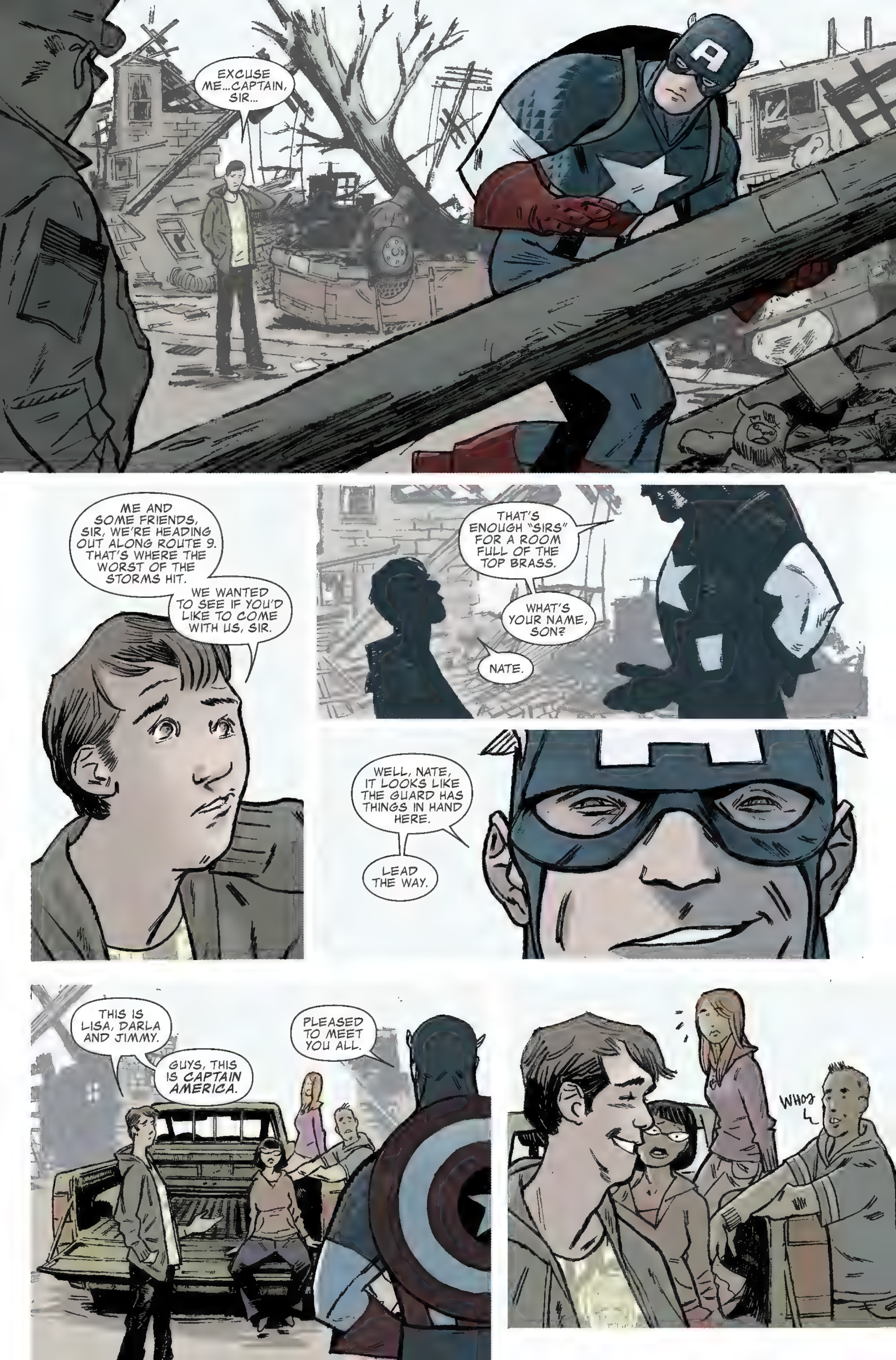

JENNY--?
THAT'S MY NAME, BUT DO I KNOW YOU?
SORRY-- YOU LOOK LIKE SOMEONE I USED TO KNOW.
THAT'S MY GRANDMOTHER IN THE PAINTING...
...I'M NAMED AFTER HER.
SO YOU'RE THE SELLER?
YEP, SORRY TO SAY...
...IN THIS ECONOMY, IT BECAME TOO VALUABLE JUST TO KEEP AS A FAMILY HEIRLOOM.
TRUTH IS, I KNEW YOUR GRANDMOTHER.
43
WERE YOU ONE OF HER STUDENTS?
NOT EXACTLY...
SHE'S BEEN GONE FOR QUITE SOME TIME...
...YOU MUST'VE BEEN INCREDIBLY YOUNG WHEN YOU KNEW HER.
YOUNGER THAN YOU'LL EVER KNOW...
...YOUNGER THAN YOU'D EVER IMAGINE.
The End

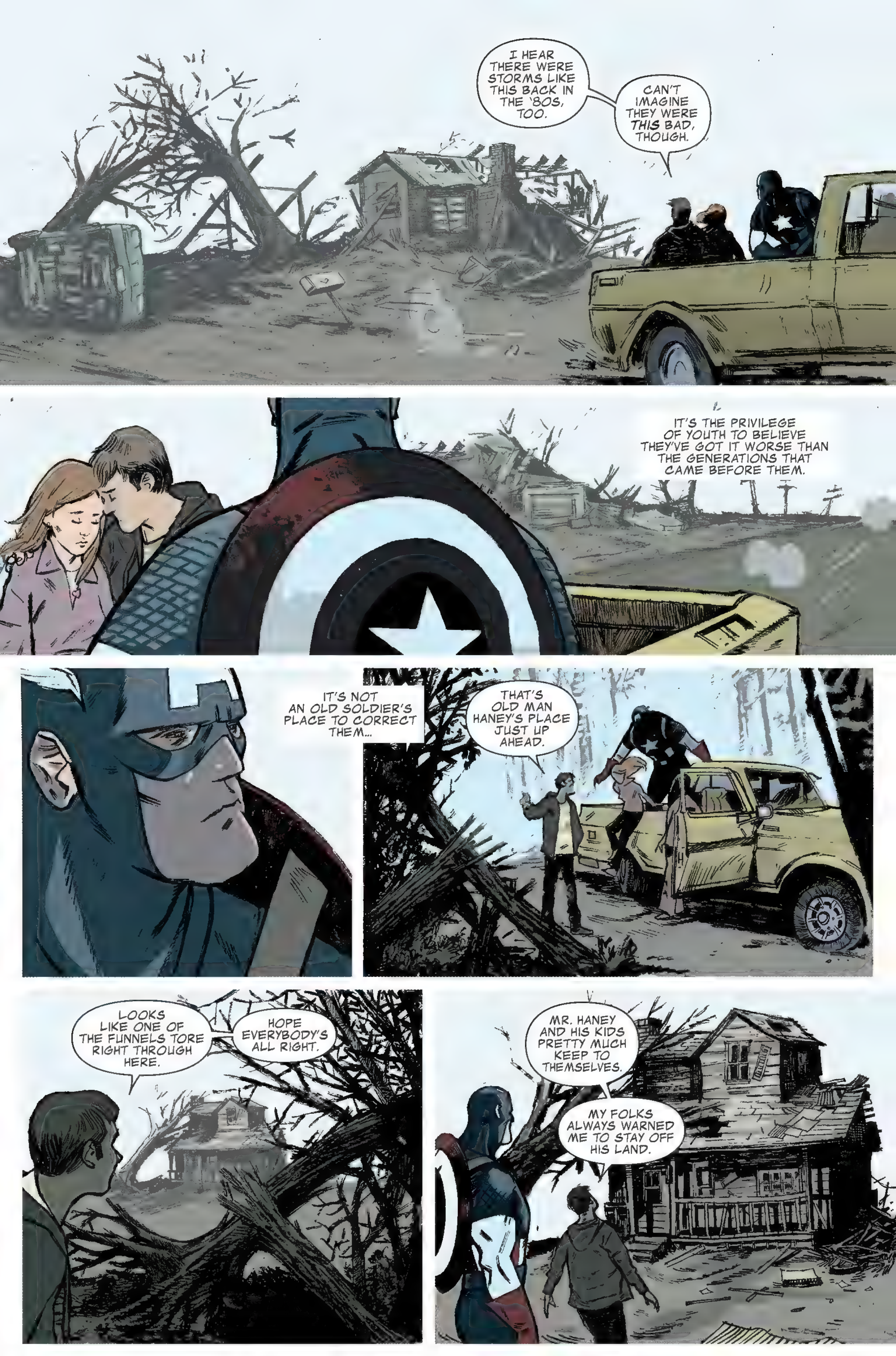

REDFIELD, OKLAHOMA.
I CAN'T SAY I'VE VISITED THE TOWN BEFORE, BUT I'VE SEEN ITS LIKE MANY TIMES...

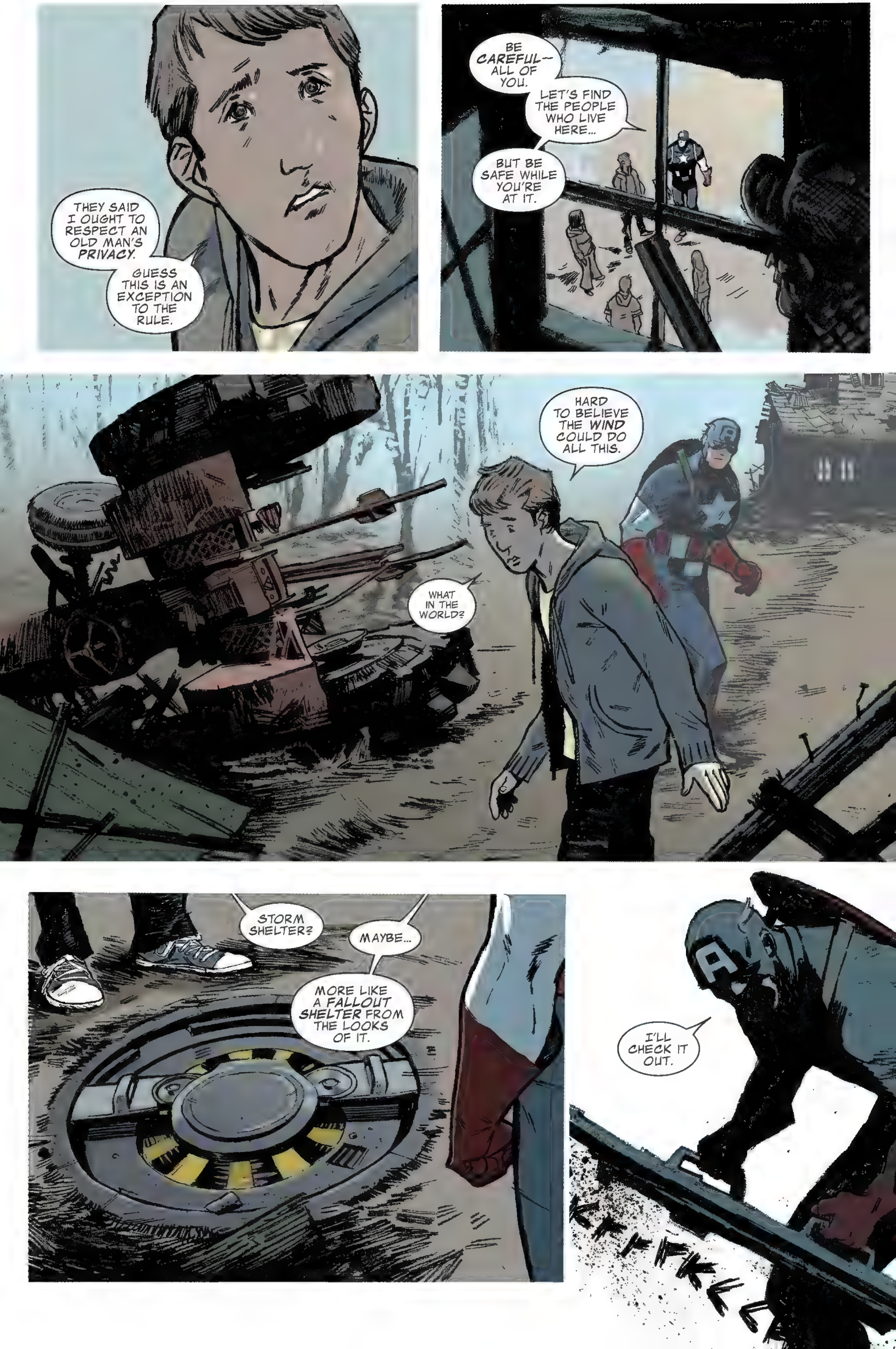

ALTHOUGH NOT IN A GOOD, LONG WHILE.
LAST NIGHT, A REPORTED TWELVE TORNADOES TOUCHED DOWN IN AND AROUND REDFIELD.
IN SOME PLACES, THE PICTURESQUE QUALITY OF THE COMMUNITY SHINES THROUGH...A GLIMPSE OF A BYGONE ERA. IN OTHERS, THE DEVASTATION IS TERRIBLE.
JACK & JOE'S
NORMAN ROCKWELL VERSUS MOTHER NATURE.

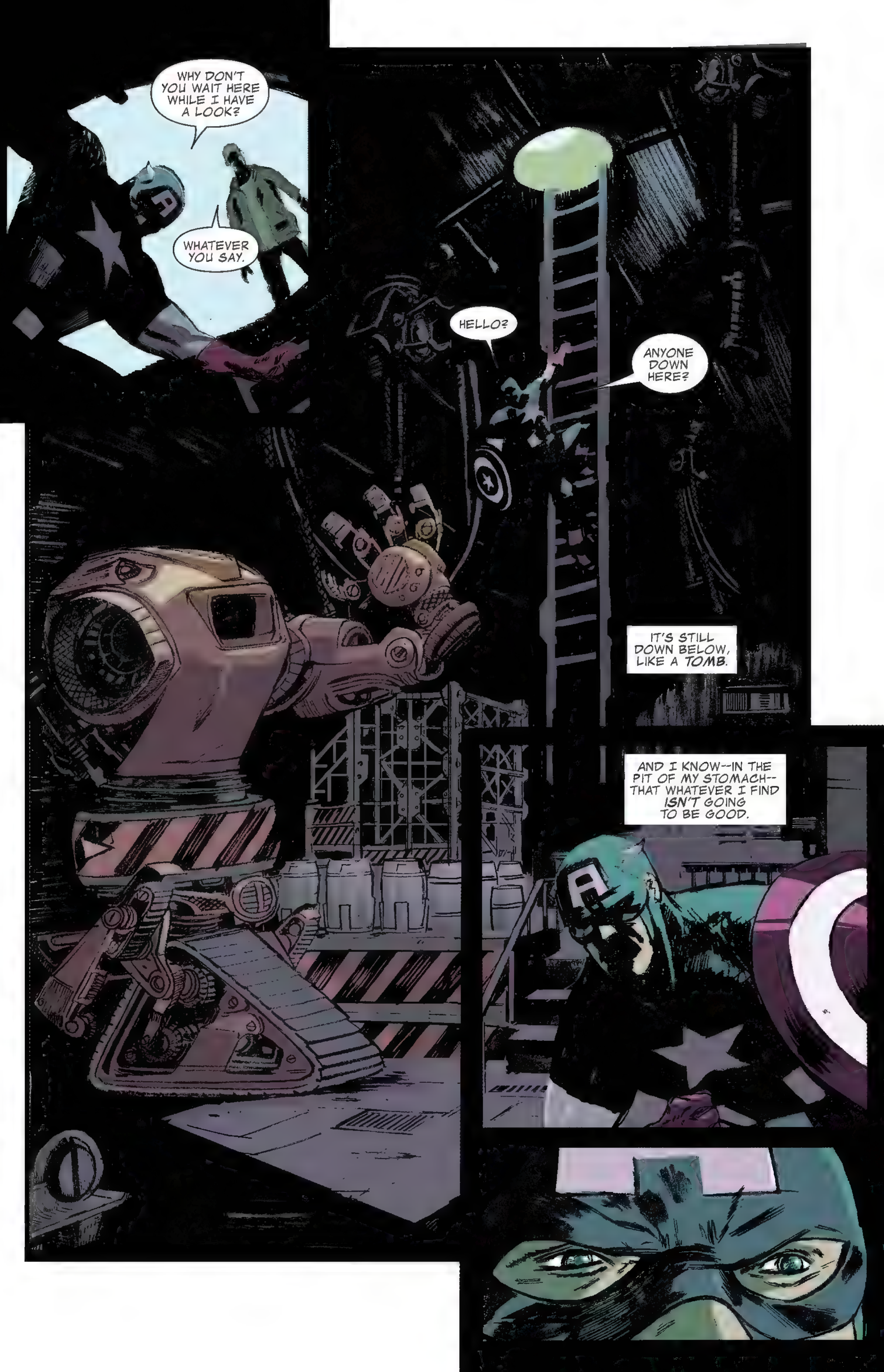

THE NATIONAL GUARD MOBILIZED. THE TOWNSFOLK PULLED TOGETHER TO HELP ONE ANOTHER.
MY ROLE IS TO PITCH IN WHERE I CAN...TO SHOULDER SOME OF THE BURDEN... TO BE *SEEN*.

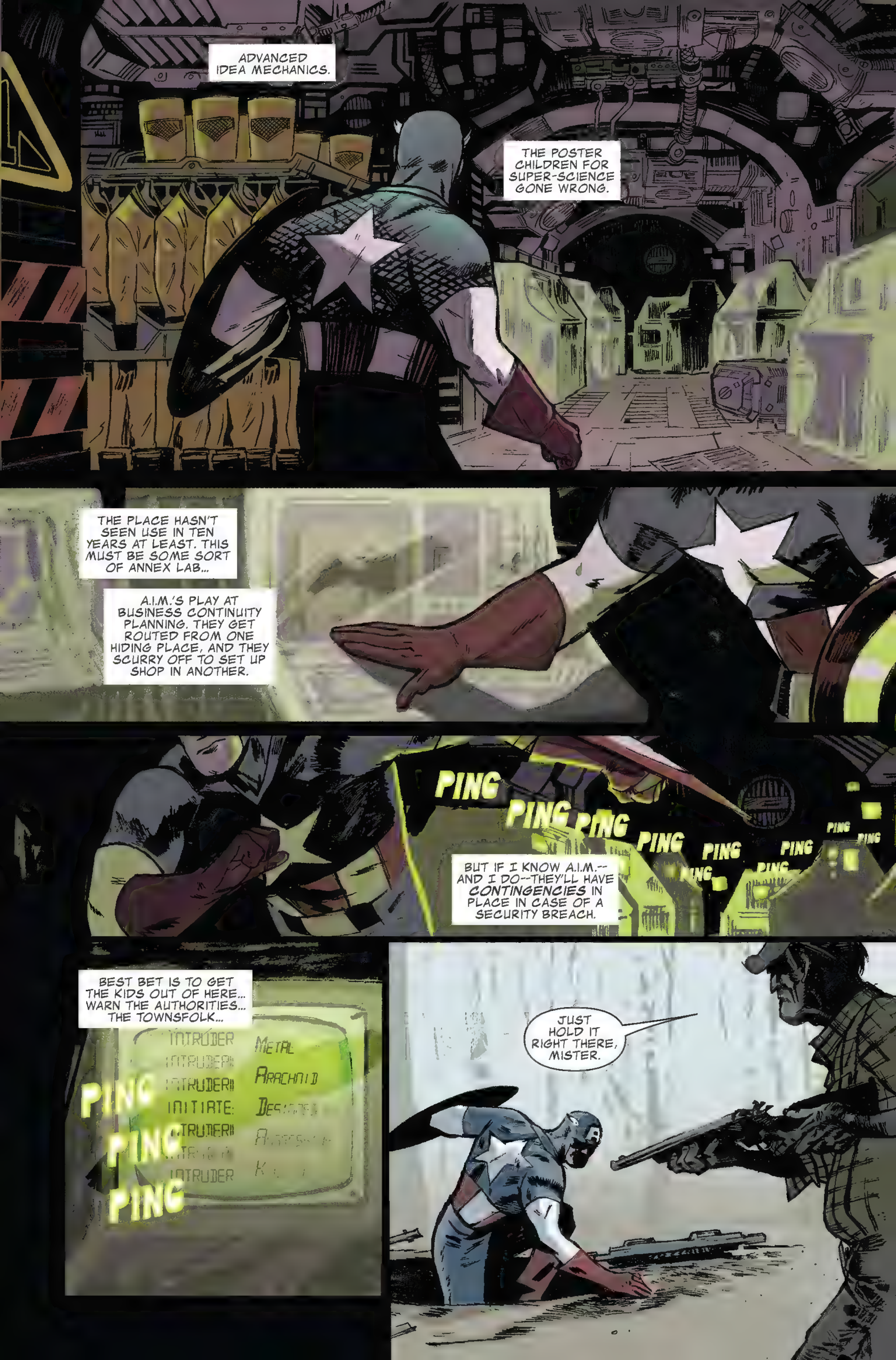

SOMETIMES, BEING ***CAPTAIN AMERICA*** MEANS PUNCHING THE RED SKULL UNTIL HE TAKES HIS THUMB OFF A DOOMSDAY SWITCH.
OTHER TIMES, IT MEANS REMINDING PEOPLE THAT THEY AREN'T ALONE.

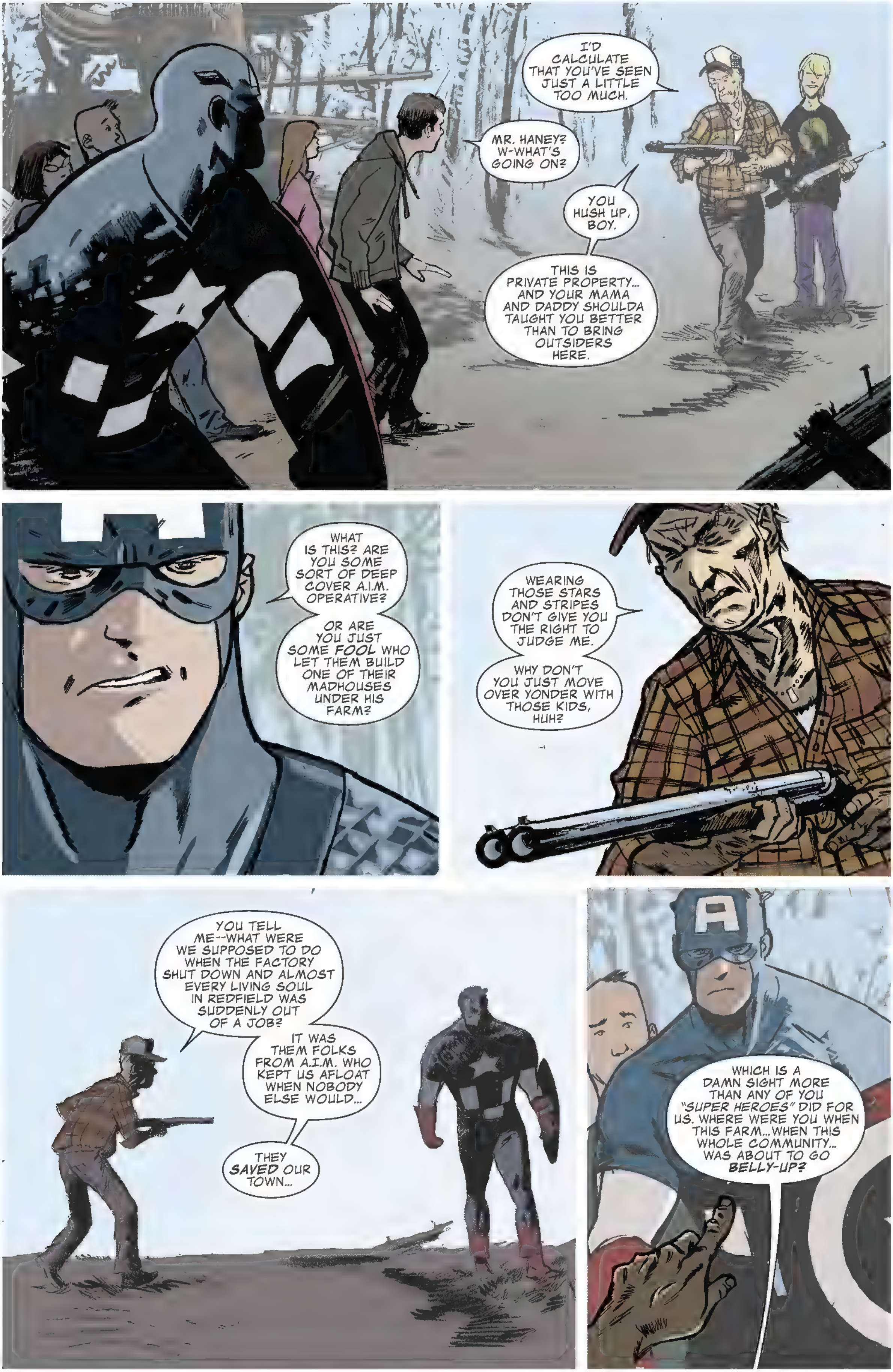

EXCUSE ME...CAPTAIN, SIR...
ME AND SOME FRIENDS, SIR, WE'RE HEADING OUT ALONG ROUTE 9. THAT'S WHERE THE WORST OF THE STORMS HIT.
WE WANTED TO SEE IF YOU'D LIKE TO COME WITH US, SIR.
THAT'S ENOUGH "SIRS" FOR A ROOM FULL OF THE TOP BRASS.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, SON?
NATE.
WELL, NATE, IT LOOKS LIKE THE GUARD HAS THINGS IN HAND HERE.
LEAD THE WAY.
THIS IS LISA, DARLA AND JIMMY.
GUYS, THIS IS *CAPTAIN AMERICA*.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU ALL.
WHOA

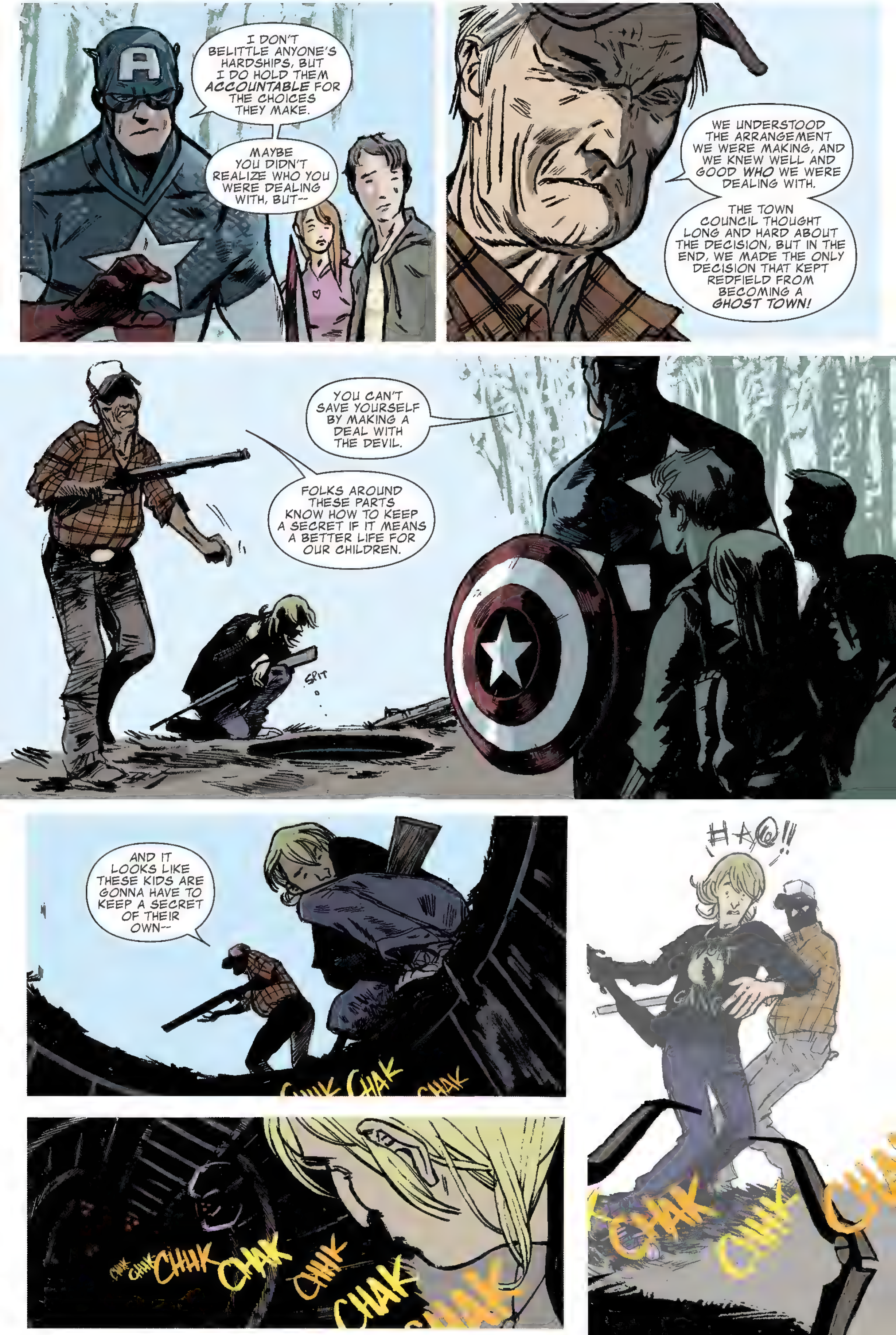

I HEAR THERE WERE STORMS LIKE THIS BACK IN THE '80S, TOO.
CAN'T IMAGINE THEY WERE *THIS* BAD, THOUGH.
IT'S THE PRIVILEGE OF YOUTH TO BELIEVE THEY'VE GOT IT WORSE THAN THE GENERATIONS THAT CAME BEFORE THEM.
IT'S NOT AN OLD SOLDIER'S PLACE TO CORRECT THEM...
THAT'S OLD MAN HANEY'S PLACE JUST UP AHEAD.
LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THE FUNNELS TORE RIGHT THROUGH HERE.
HOPE EVERYBODY'S ALL RIGHT.
MR. HANEY AND HIS KIDS PRETTY MUCH KEEP TO THEMSELVES.
MY FOLKS ALWAYS WARNED ME TO STAY OFF HIS LAND.

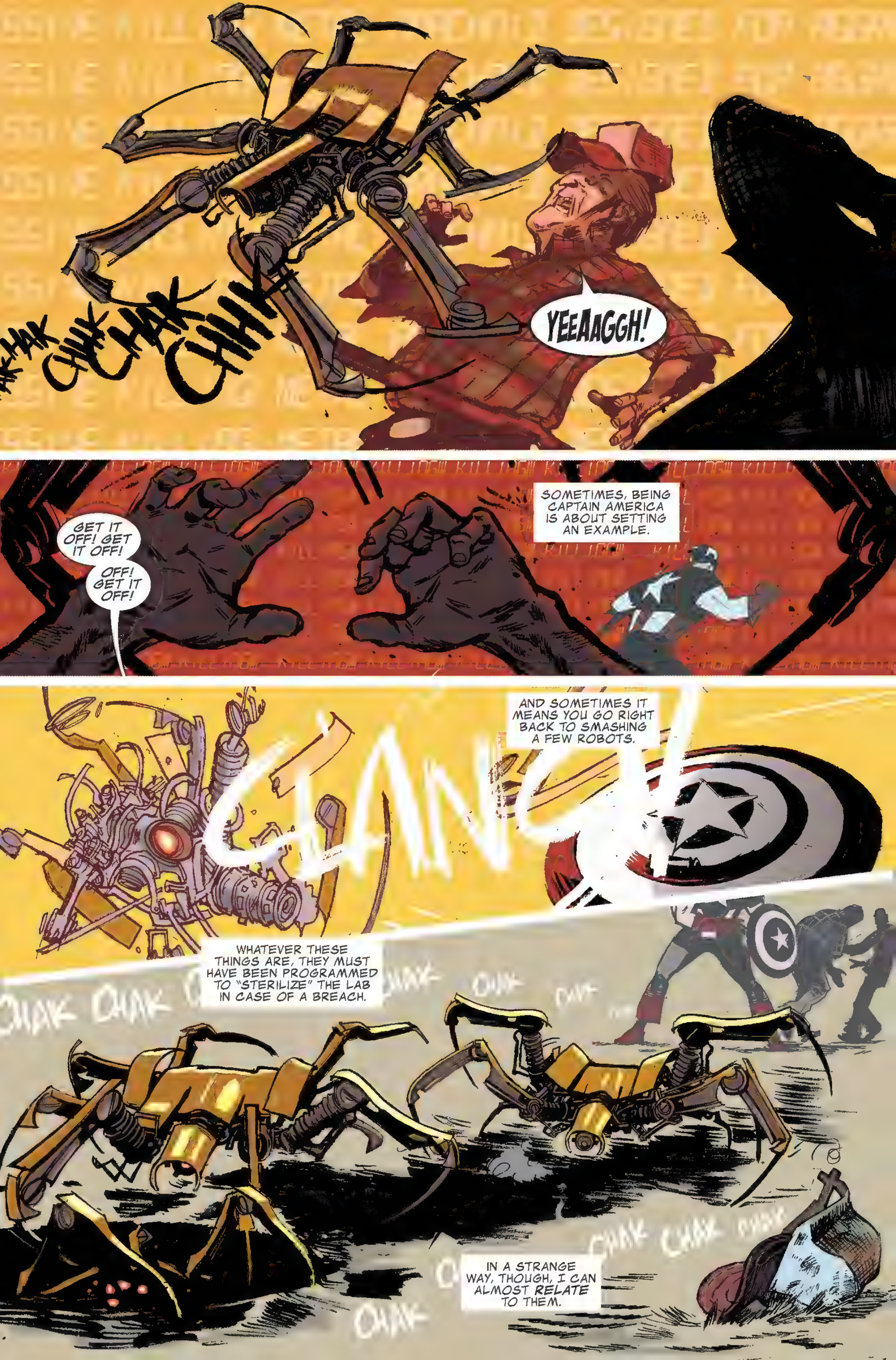

THEY SAID I OUGHT TO RESPECT AN OLD MAN'S *PRIVACY*.
GUESS THIS IS AN EXCEPTION TO THE RULE.
BE *CAREFUL*-- ALL OF YOU.
LET'S FIND THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE...
BUT BE SAFE WHILE YOU'RE AT IT.
HARD TO BELIEVE THE *WIND* COULD DO ALL THIS.
WHAT IN THE WORLD?
STORM SHELTER?
MAYBE...
MORE LIKE A *FALLOUT SHELTER* FROM THE LOOKS OF IT.
I'LL CHECK IT OUT.
KFFFKEE

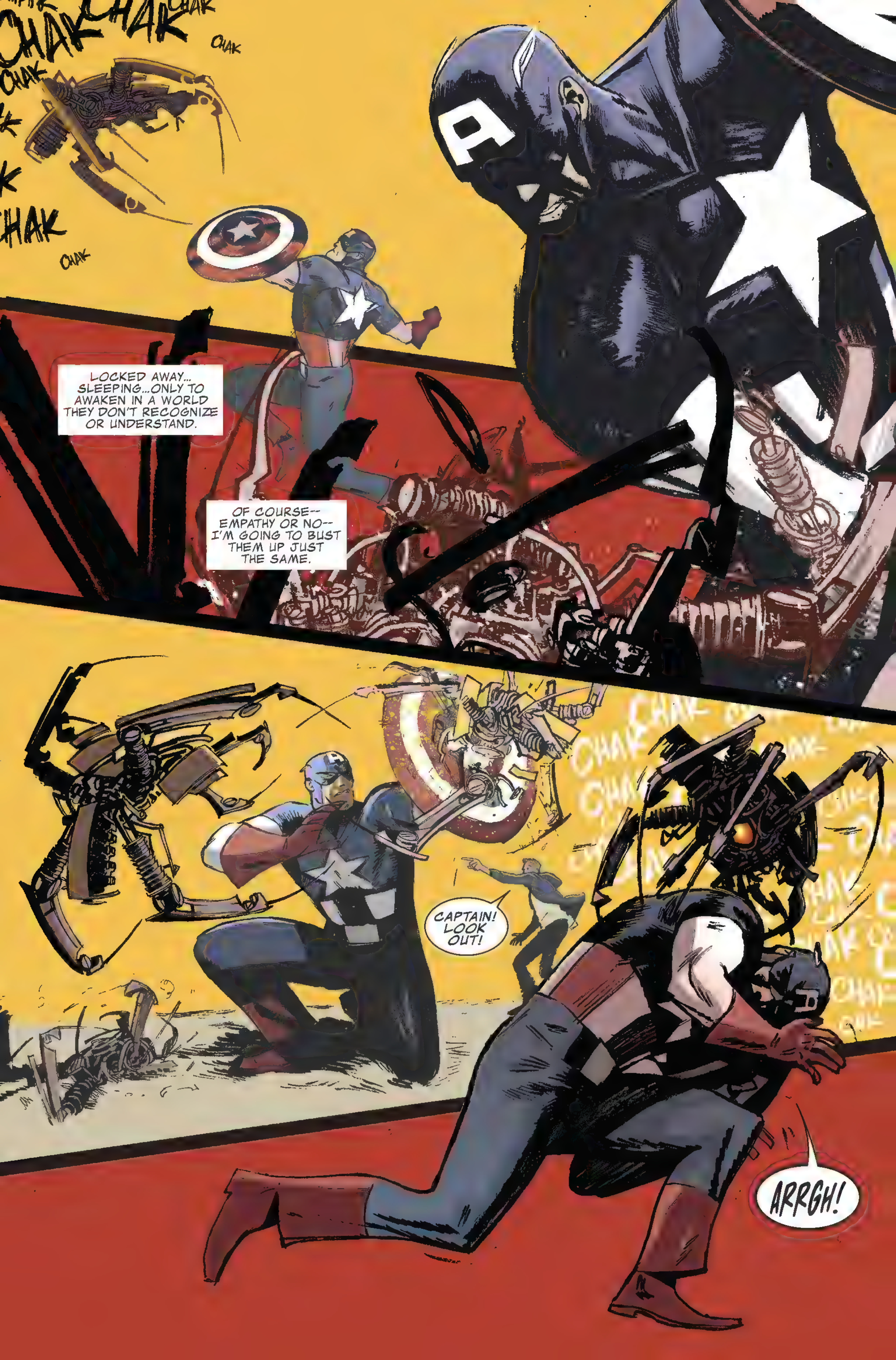

WHY DON'T YOU WAIT HERE WHILE I HAVE A LOOK?
WHATEVER YOU SAY.
HELLO?
ANYONE DOWN HERE?
IT'S STILL DOWN BELOW, LIKE A *TOMB*.
AND I KNOW--IN THE PIT OF MY STOMACH--THAT WHATEVER I FIND *ISN'T* GOING TO BE GOOD.

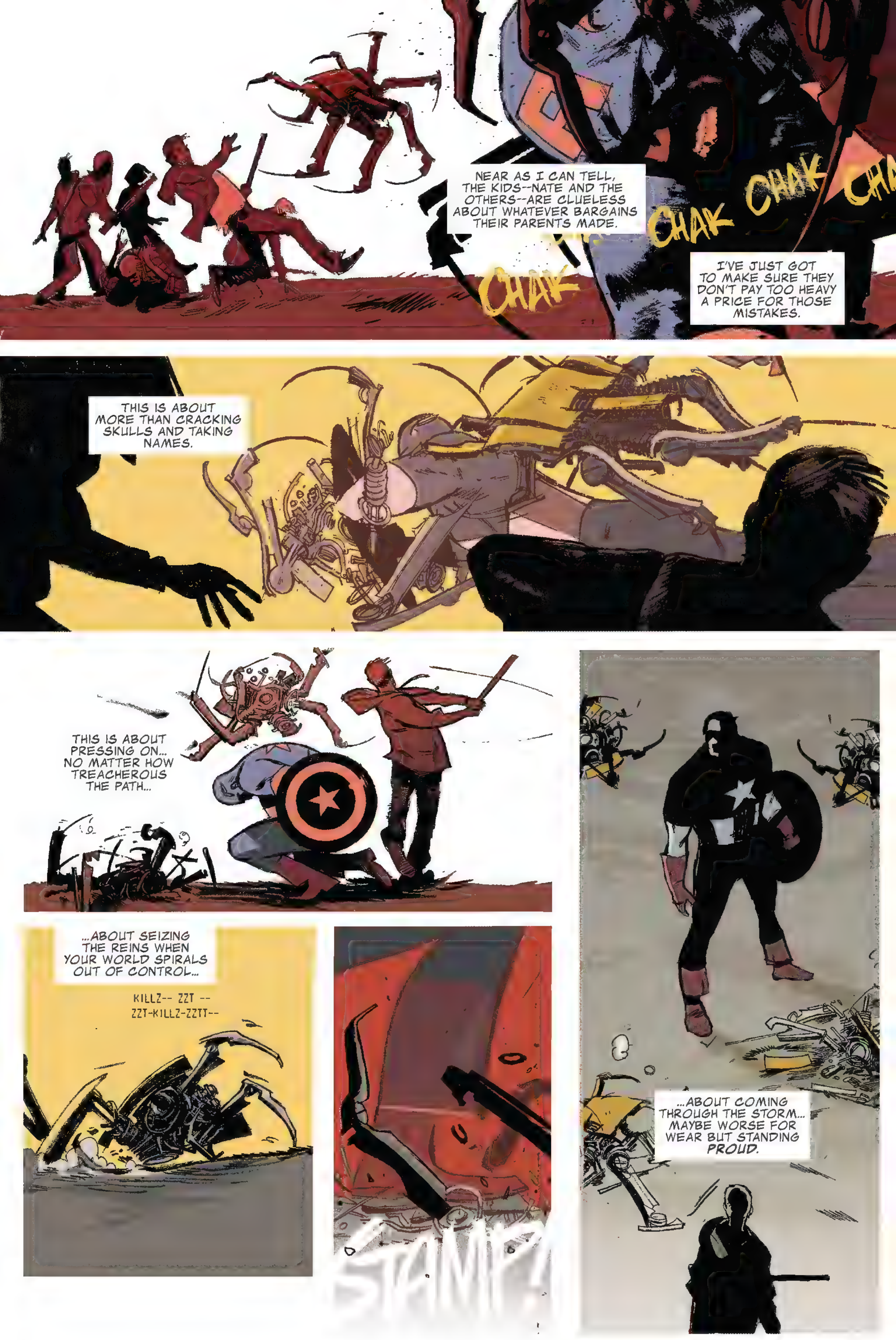

ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS.
THE POSTER CHILDREN FOR SUPER-SCIENCE GONE WRONG.
THE PLACE HASN'T SEEN USE IN TEN YEARS AT LEAST. THIS MUST BE SOME SORT OF ANNEX LAB...
A.I.M.'S PLAY AT BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLANNING. THEY GET ROUTED FROM ONE HIDING PLACE, AND THEY SCURRY OFF TO SET UP SHOP IN ANOTHER.
PING
PING PING
PING
PING
PING
PING
PING
PING
PING
BUT IF I KNOW A.I.M.-- AND I DO--THEY'LL HAVE CONTINGENCIES IN PLACE IN CASE OF A SECURITY BREACH.
BEST BET IS TO GET THE KIDS OUT OF HERE... WARN THE AUTHORITIES... THE TOWNSFOLK...
INTRUDER
INTRUDER!!
INTRUDER!!
INITIATE:
INTRUDER!!
INTRUDER
METAL
ARACHNID
PING
PING
PING
JUST HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, MISTER.

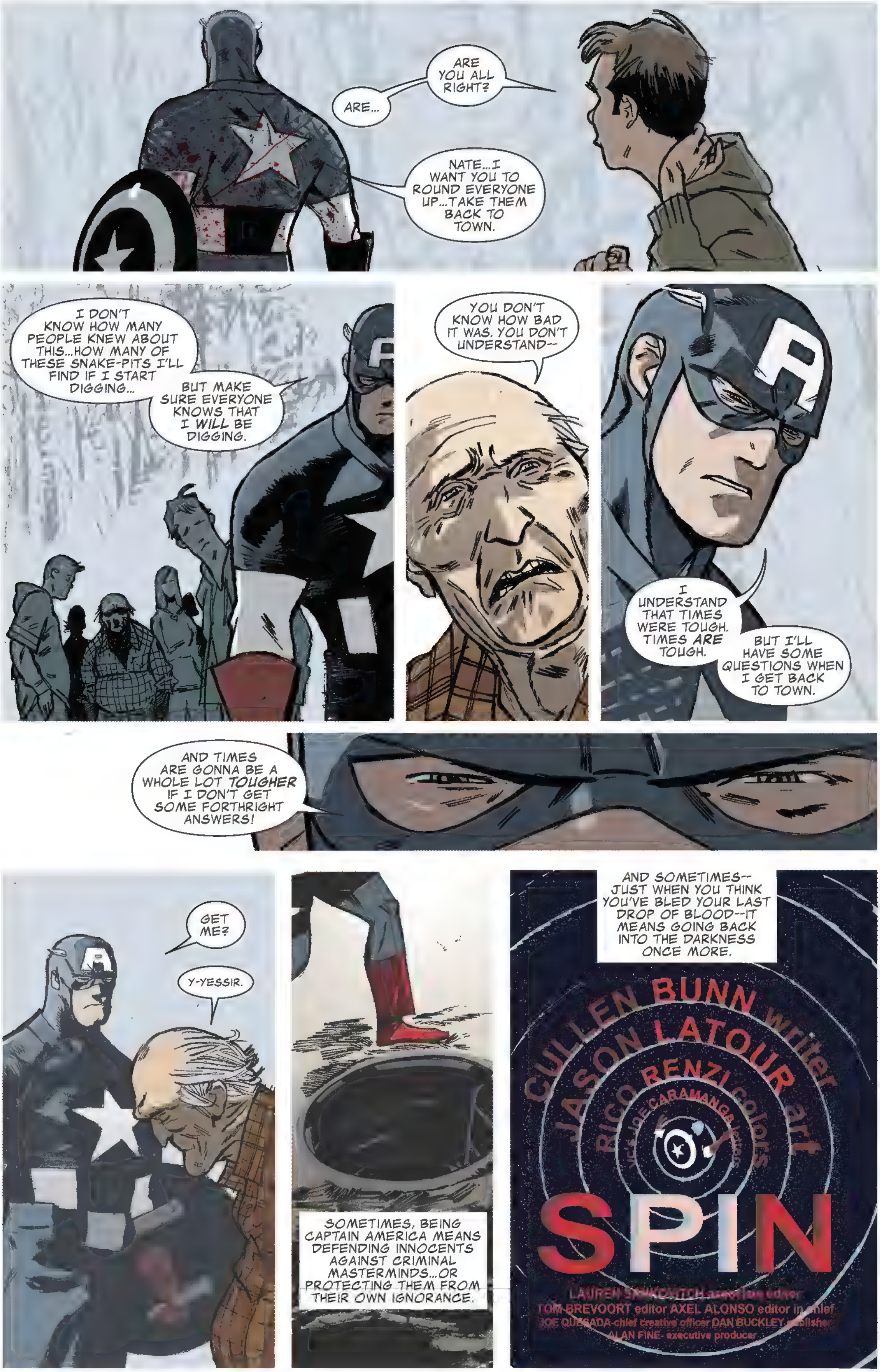

I'D CALCULATE THAT YOU'VE SEEN JUST A LITTLE TOO MUCH.
MR. HANEY? W-WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOU HUSH UP, BOY.
THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY... AND YOUR MAMA AND DADDY SHOULDA TAUGHT YOU BETTER THAN TO BRING OUTSIDERS HERE.
WHAT IS THIS? ARE YOU SOME SORT OF DEEP COVER A.I.M. OPERATIVE?
OR ARE YOU JUST SOME **FOOL** WHO LET THEM BUILD ONE OF THEIR MADHOUSES UNDER HIS FARM?
WEARING THOSE STARS AND STRIPES DON'T GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO JUDGE ME.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST MOVE OVER YONDER WITH THOSE KIDS, HUH?
YOU TELL ME--WHAT WERE WE SUPPOSED TO DO WHEN THE FACTORY SHUT DOWN AND ALMOST EVERY LIVING SOUL IN REDFIELD WAS SUDDENLY OUT OF A JOB?
IT WAS THEM FOLKS FROM A.I.M. WHO KEPT US AFLOAT WHEN NOBODY ELSE WOULD...
THEY ***SAVED*** OUR TOWN...
WHICH IS A DAMN SIGHT MORE THAN ANY OF YOU "SUPER HEROES" DID FOR US. WHERE WERE YOU WHEN THIS FARM...WHEN THIS WHOLE COMMUNITY... WAS ABOUT TO GO ***BELLY-UP?***


I DON'T BELITTLE ANYONE'S HARDSHIPS, BUT I DO HOLD THEM **ACCOUNTABLE** FOR THE CHOICES THEY MAKE.
MAYBE YOU DIDN'T REALIZE WHO YOU WERE DEALING WITH, BUT--
WE UNDERSTOOD THE ARRANGEMENT WE WERE MAKING, AND WE KNEW WELL AND GOOD *WHO* WE WERE DEALING WITH.
THE TOWN COUNCIL THOUGHT LONG AND HARD ABOUT THE DECISION, BUT IN THE END, WE MADE THE ONLY DECISION THAT KEPT REDFIELD FROM BECOMING A ***GHOST TOWN!***
FOLKS AROUND THESE PARTS KNOW HOW TO KEEP A SECRET IF IT MEANS A BETTER LIFE FOR OUR CHILDREN.
YOU CAN'T SAVE YOURSELF BY MAKING A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL.
SPIT
AND IT LOOKS LIKE THESE KIDS ARE GONNA HAVE TO KEEP A SECRET OF THEIR OWN--
CHUK CHAK CHAK
HAG!!
CHAK CHAK CHAK CHAK CHAK CHAK CHAK
CHAK CHUK CHA


CHAK CHAK CHAK CHAK
YEEAAGGH!
GET IT OFF! GET IT OFF!
OFF! GET IT OFF!
SOMETIMES, BEING CAPTAIN AMERICA IS ABOUT SETTING AN EXAMPLE.
AND SOMETIMES IT MEANS YOU GO RIGHT BACK TO SMASHING A FEW ROBOTS.
CLANG!
WHATEVER THESE THINGS ARE, THEY MUST HAVE BEEN PROGRAMMED TO "STERILIZE" THE LAB IN CASE OF A BREACH.
CHAK CHAK CHAK CHAK CHAK
IN A STRANGE WAY, THOUGH, I CAN ALMOST RELATE TO THEM.
CHAK CHAK CHAK CHAK


CHAK CHAK CHAK
CHAK
CHAK
CHAK
CHAK
LOCKED AWAY... SLEEPING...ONLY TO AWAKEN IN A WORLD THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE OR UNDERSTAND.
OF COURSE-- EMPATHY OR NO-- I'M GOING TO BUST THEM UP JUST THE SAME.
CHAK CHAK
CHAK
CAPTAIN! LOOK OUT!
ARRGH!


NEAR AS I CAN TELL, THE KIDS--NATE AND THE OTHERS--ARE CLUELESS ABOUT WHATEVER BARGAINS THEIR PARENTS MADE.
CHAK
CHAK
CHAK
CHA
I'VE JUST GOT TO MAKE SURE THEY DON'T PAY TOO HEAVY A PRICE FOR THOSE MISTAKES.
THIS IS ABOUT MORE THAN CRACKING SKULLS AND TAKING NAMES.
THIS IS ABOUT PRESSING ON... NO MATTER HOW TREACHEROUS THE PATH...
...ABOUT SEIZING THE REINS WHEN YOUR WORLD SPIRALS OUT OF CONTROL...
KILLZ-- ZZT --
ZZT-KILLZ-ZZTT--
STAMP!
...ABOUT COMING THROUGH THE STORM... MAYBE WORSE FOR WEAR BUT STANDING PROUD.


ARE...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
NATE...I WANT YOU TO ROUND EVERYONE UP...TAKE THEM BACK TO TOWN.
I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE KNEW ABOUT THIS...HOW MANY OF THESE SNAKE-PITS I'LL FIND IF I START DIGGING...
BUT MAKE SURE EVERYONE KNOWS THAT I *WILL* BE DIGGING.
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW BAD IT WAS. YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND--
I UNDERSTAND THAT TIMES WERE TOUGH. TIMES *ARE* TOUGH.
BUT I'LL HAVE SOME QUESTIONS WHEN I GET BACK TO TOWN.
AND TIMES ARE GONNA BE A WHOLE LOT *TOUGHER* IF I DON'T GET SOME FORTHRIGHT ANSWERS!
GET ME?
Y-YESSIR.
SOMETIMES, BEING CAPTAIN AMERICA MEANS DEFENDING INNOCENTS AGAINST CRIMINAL MASTERMINDS...OR PROTECTING THEM FROM THEIR OWN IGNORANCE.
AND SOMETIMES--JUST WHEN YOU THINK YOU'VE BLED YOUR LAST DROP OF BLOOD--IT MEANS GOING BACK INTO THE DARKNESS ONCE MORE.
CULLEN BUNN writer
JASON LATOUR art
RICO RENZI colors
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA letters
SPIN
LAUREN SANKOVITCH associate editor
TOM BREVOORT editor AXEL ALONSO editor in chief
JOE QUESADA-chief creative officer DAN BUCKLEY publisher
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Operation: Tooth Fairy

by Mike Benson & Paul Grist
Lee Loughridge - Color
VC's Joe Caramagna - Letters
Lauren Sankovitch - Assoc. Editor
Tom Brevoort - Editor
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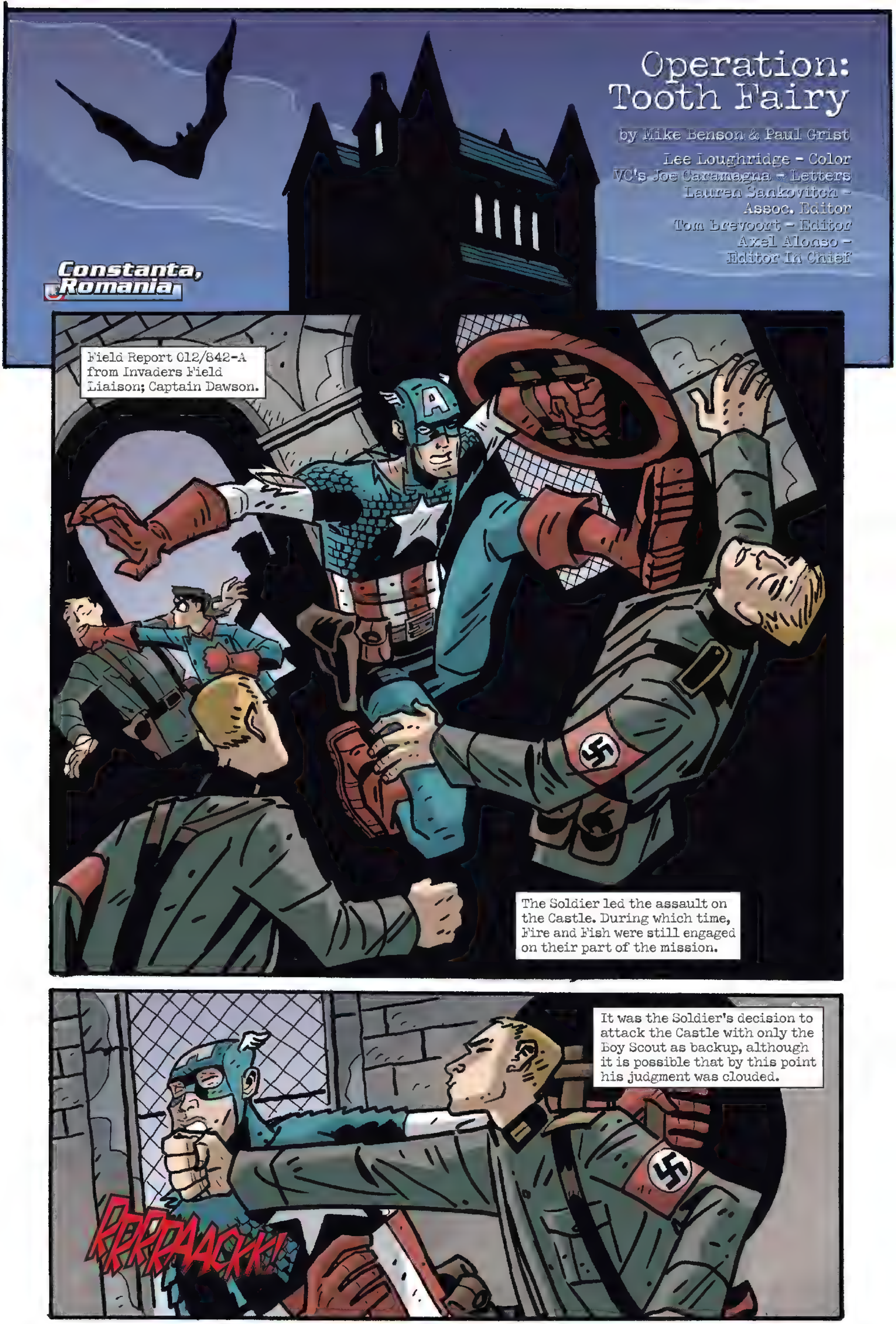
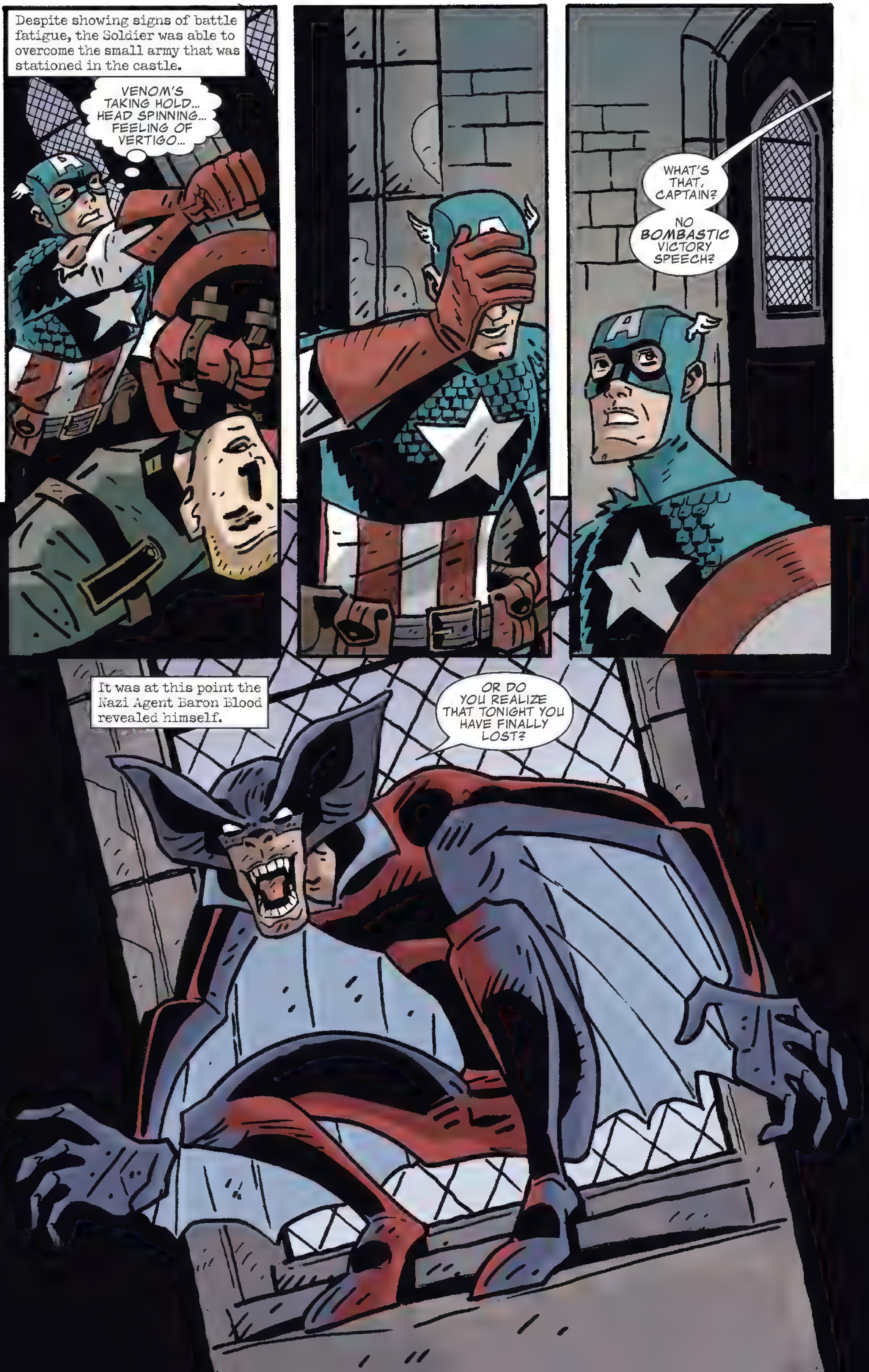
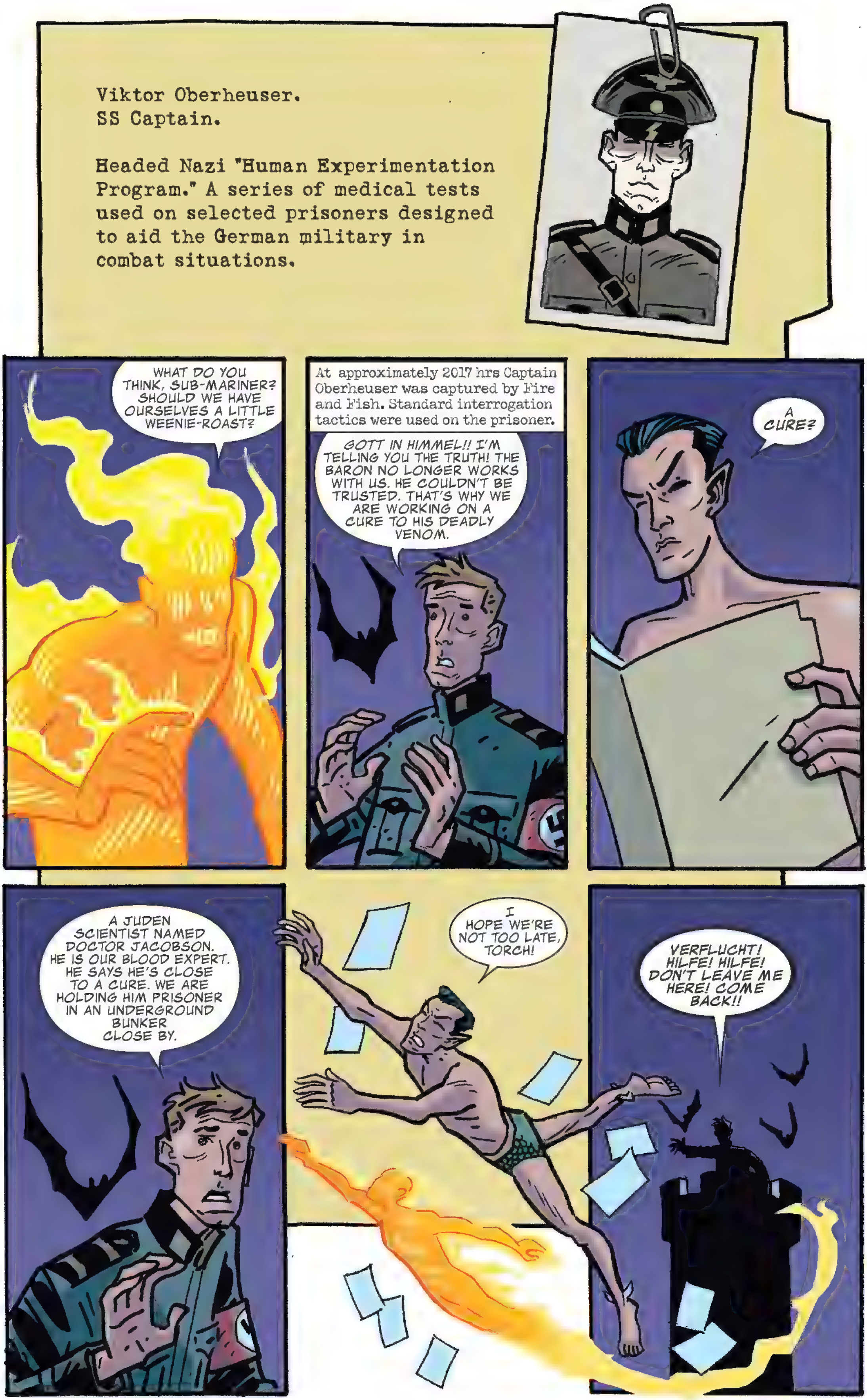
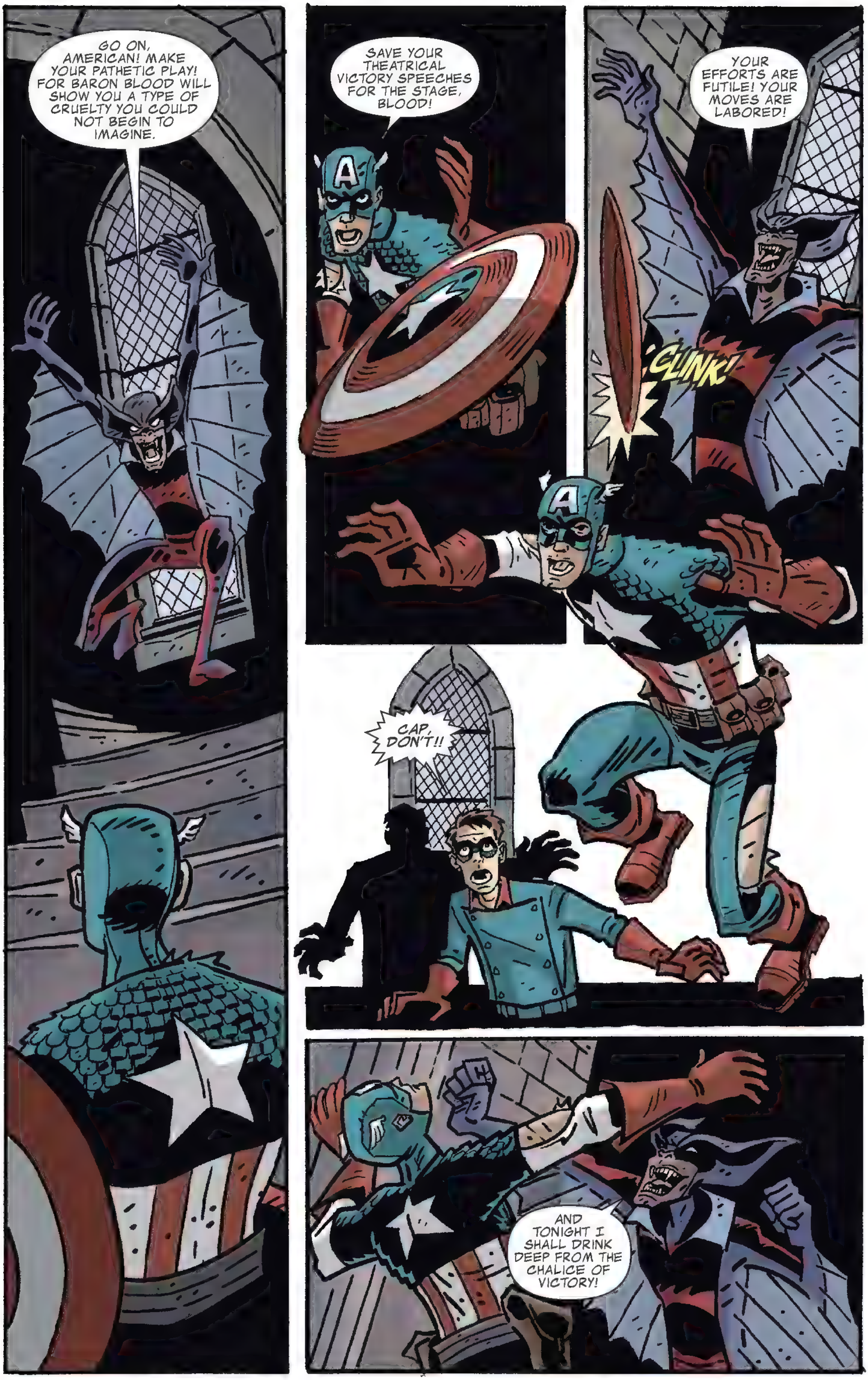
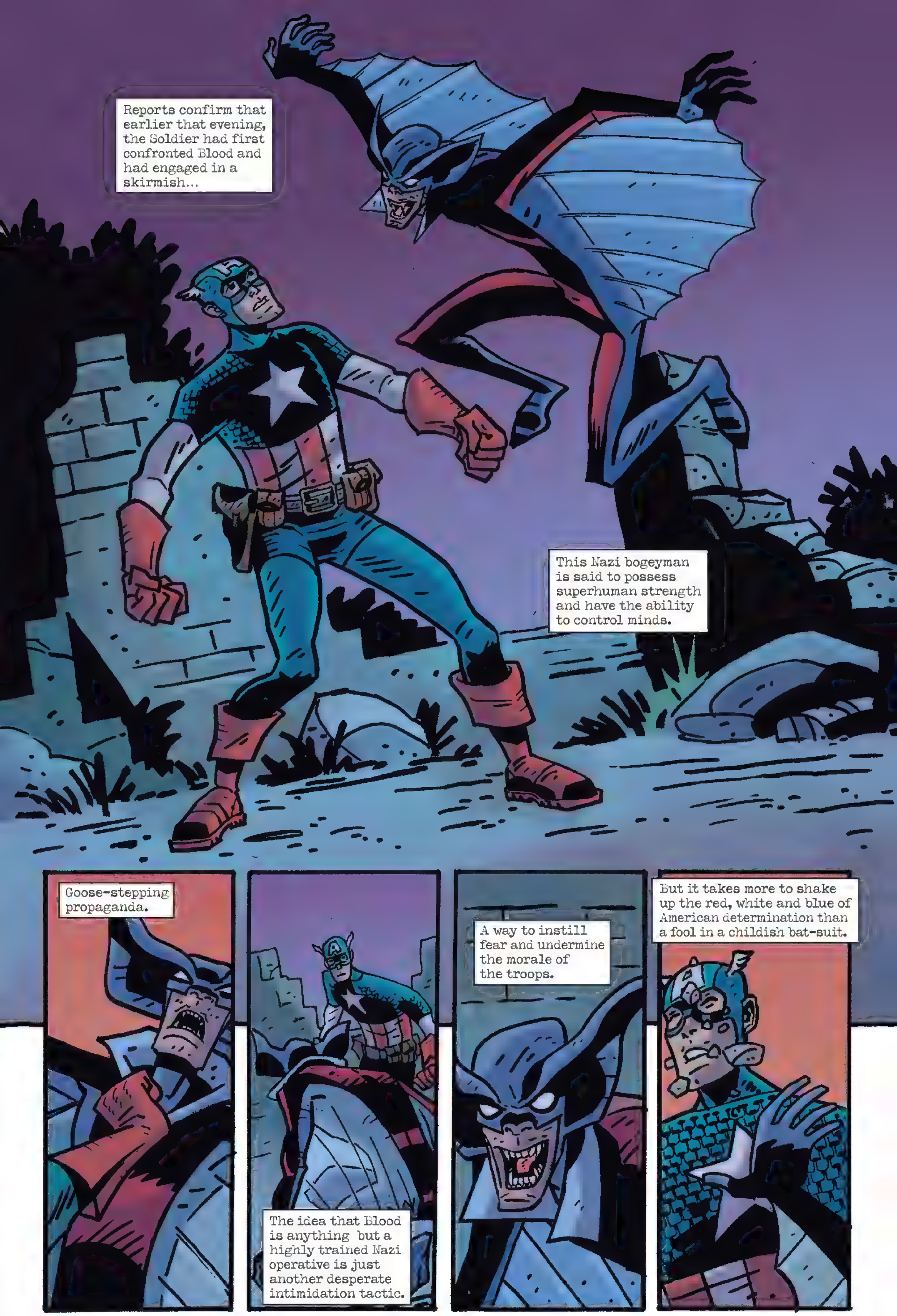
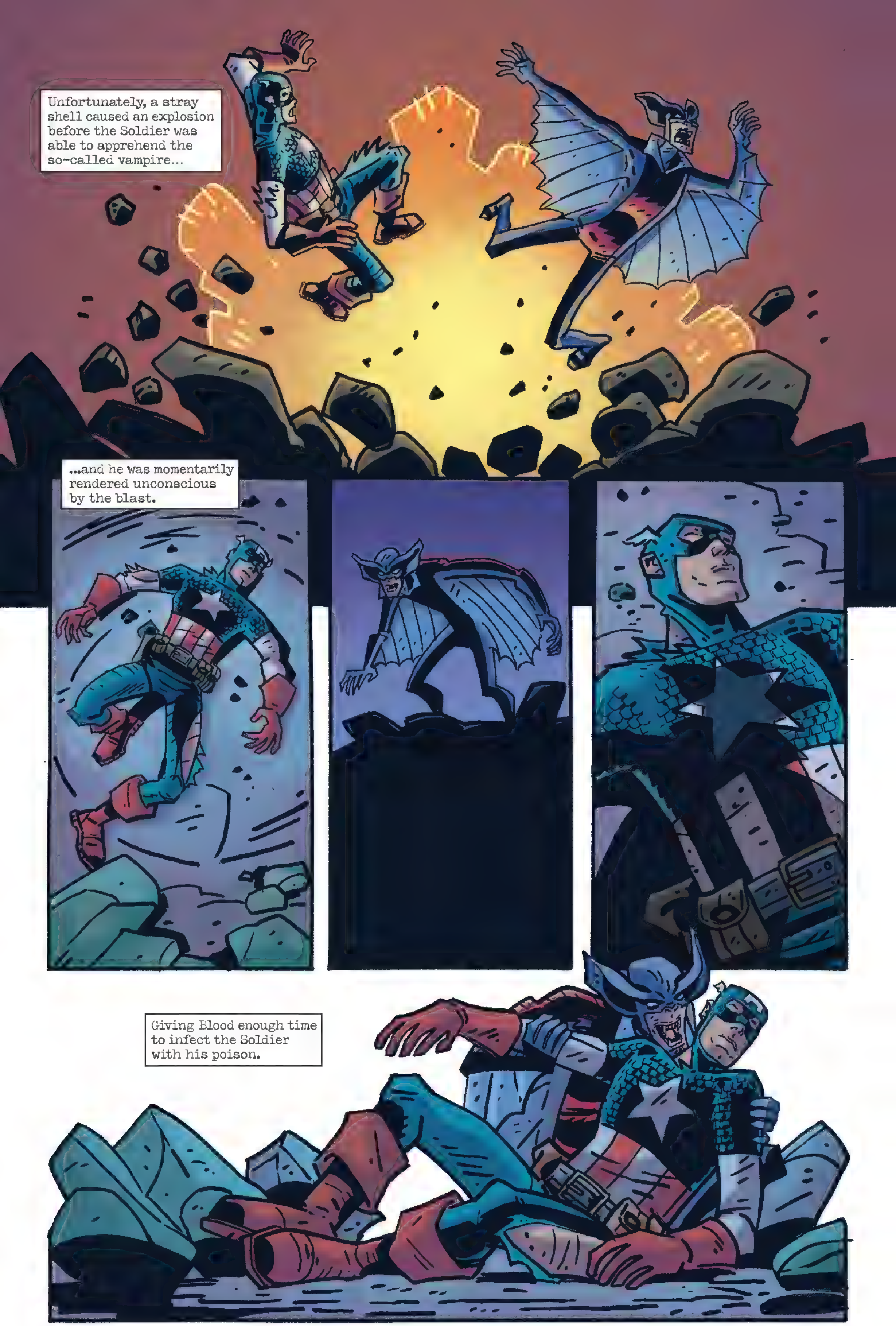

Constanta, Romania
Field Report 012/842-A from Invaders Field Liaison; Captain Dawson.
The Soldier led the assault on the Castle. During which time, Fire and Fish were still engaged on their part of the mission.
It was the Soldier's decision to attack the Castle with only the Boy Scout as backup, although it is possible that by this point his judgment was clouded.
KRRRAACKK!

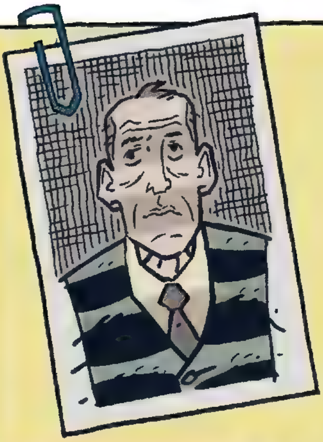

Despite showing signs of battle fatigue, the Soldier was able to overcome the small army that was stationed in the castle.
VENOM'S TAKING HOLD... HEAD SPINNING... FEELING OF VERTIGO...
WHAT'S THAT, CAPTAIN?
NO BOMBASTIC VICTORY SPEECH?
It was at this point the Nazi Agent Baron Blood revealed himself.
OR DO YOU REALIZE THAT TONIGHT YOU HAVE FINALLY LOST?


Viktor Oberheuser.
SS Captain.
Headed Nazi "Human Experimentation Program." A series of medical tests used on selected prisoners designed to aid the German military in combat situations.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, SUB-MARINER? SHOULD WE HAVE OURSELVES A LITTLE WEENIE-ROAST?
At approximately 2017 hrs Captain Oberheuser was captured by Fire and Fish. Standard interrogation tactics were used on the prisoner.
GOTT IN HIMMEL!! I'M TELLING YOU THE TRUTH! THE BARON NO LONGER WORKS WITH US. HE COULDN'T BE TRUSTED. THAT'S WHY WE ARE WORKING ON A CURE TO HIS DEADLY VENOM.
A CURE?
A JUDEN SCIENTIST NAMED DOCTOR JACOBSON. HE IS OUR BLOOD EXPERT. HE SAYS HE'S CLOSE TO A CURE. WE ARE HOLDING HIM PRISONER IN AN UNDERGROUND BUNKER CLOSE BY.
I HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE, TORCH!
VERFLUCHT! HILFE! HILFE! DON'T LEAVE ME HERE! COME BACK!!


GO ON, AMERICAN! MAKE YOUR PATHETIC PLAY! FOR BARON BLOOD WILL SHOW YOU A TYPE OF CRUELTY YOU COULD NOT BEGIN TO IMAGINE.
SAVE YOUR THEATRICAL VICTORY SPEECHES FOR THE STAGE, BLOOD!
YOUR EFFORTS ARE FUTILE! YOUR MOVES ARE LABORED!
CLINK!
CAP, DON'T!!
AND TONIGHT I SHALL DRINK DEEP FROM THE CHALICE OF VICTORY!


Reports confirm that earlier that evening, the Soldier had first confronted Blood and had engaged in a skirmish...
This Nazi bogeyman is said to possess superhuman strength and have the ability to control minds.
Goose-stepping propaganda.
The idea that Blood is anything but a highly trained Nazi operative is just another desperate intimidation tactic.
A way to instill fear and undermine the morale of the troops.
But it takes more to shake up the red, white and blue of American determination than a fool in a childish bat-suit.

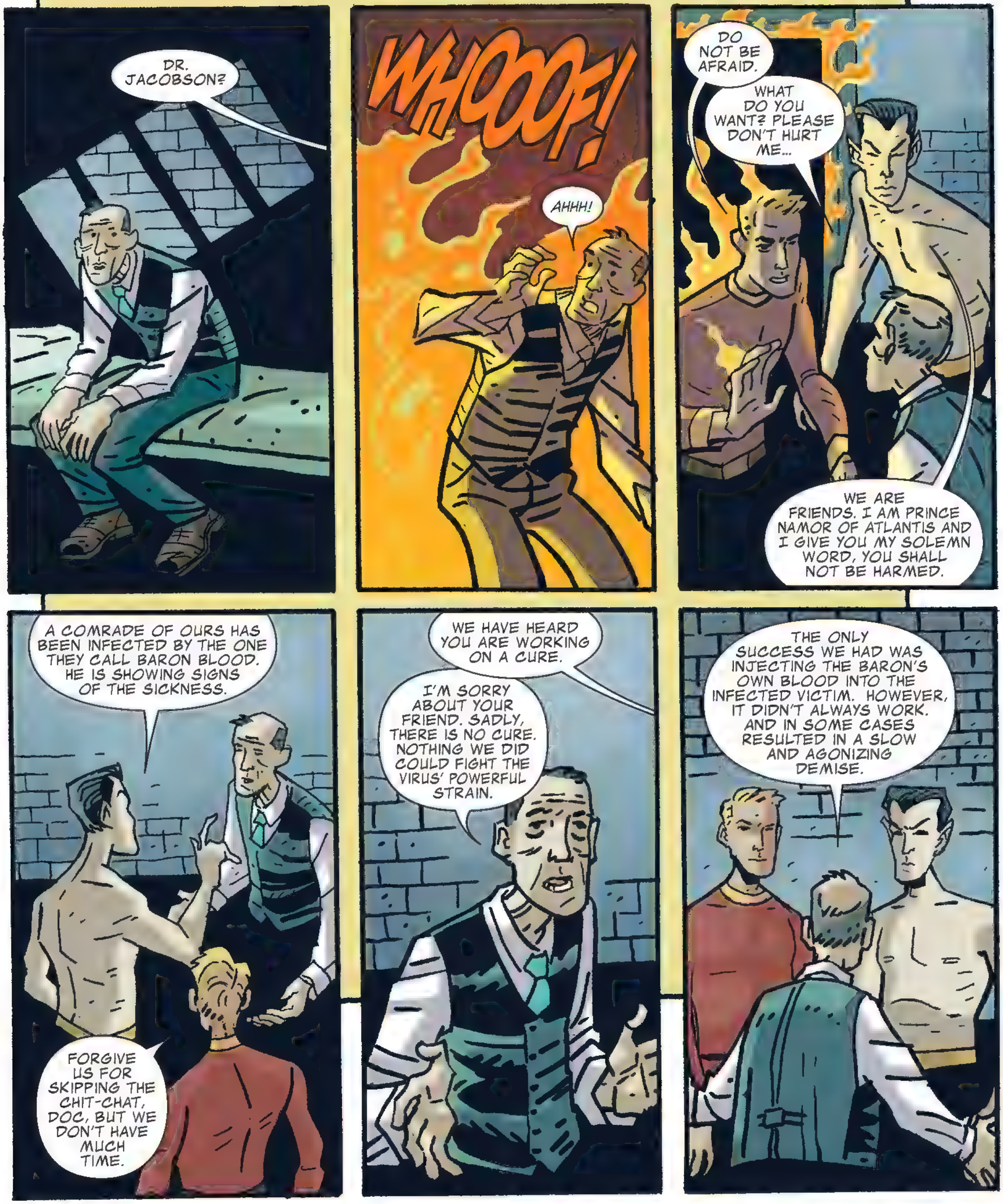

Unfortunately, a stray shell caused an explosion before the Soldier was able to apprehend the so-called vampire...
...and he was momentarily rendered unconscious by the blast.
Giving Blood enough time to infect the Soldier with his poison.

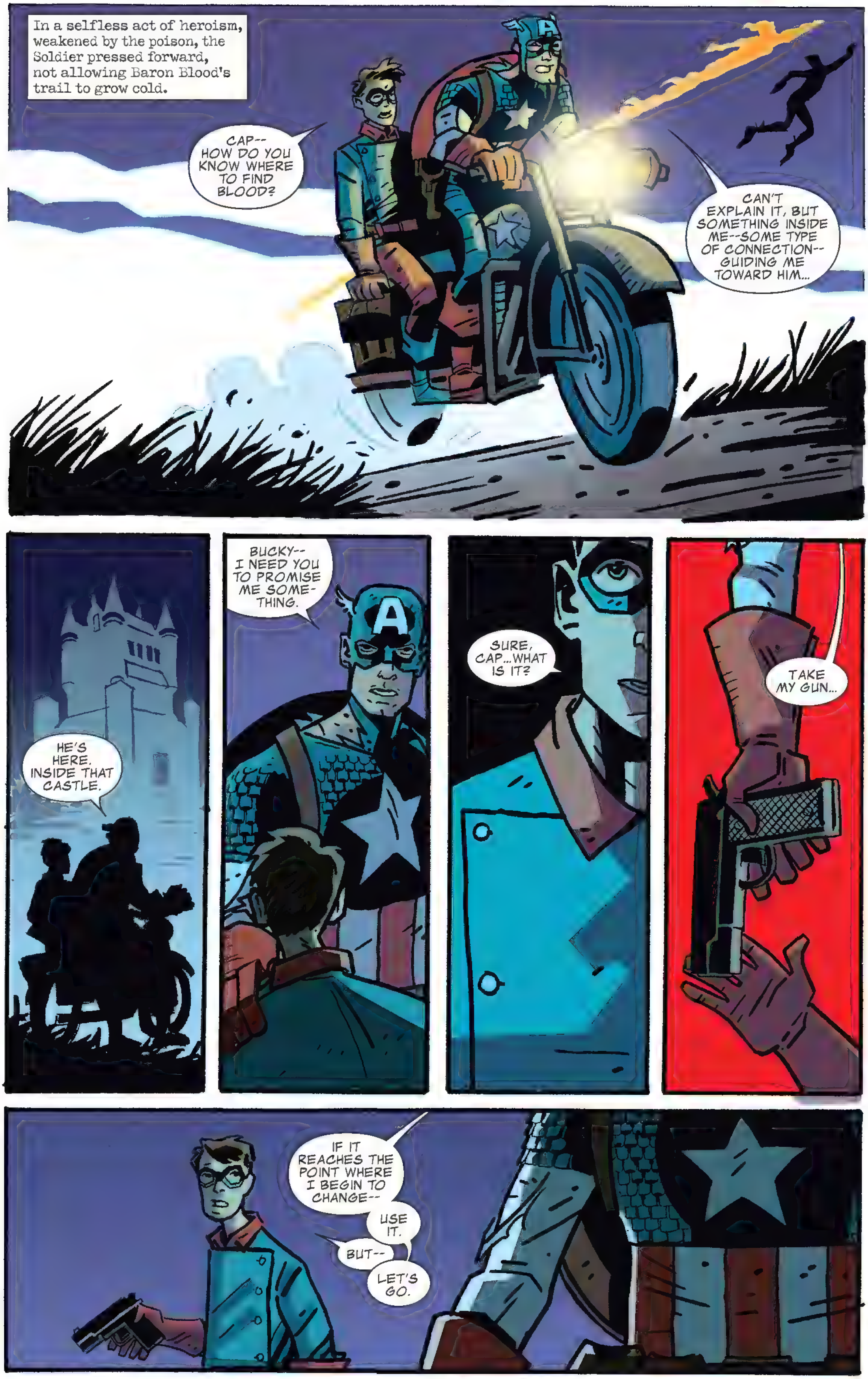


Dr. Leo Jacobson.

Polish scientist
and Jewish survivor
of the Warsaw ghetto.

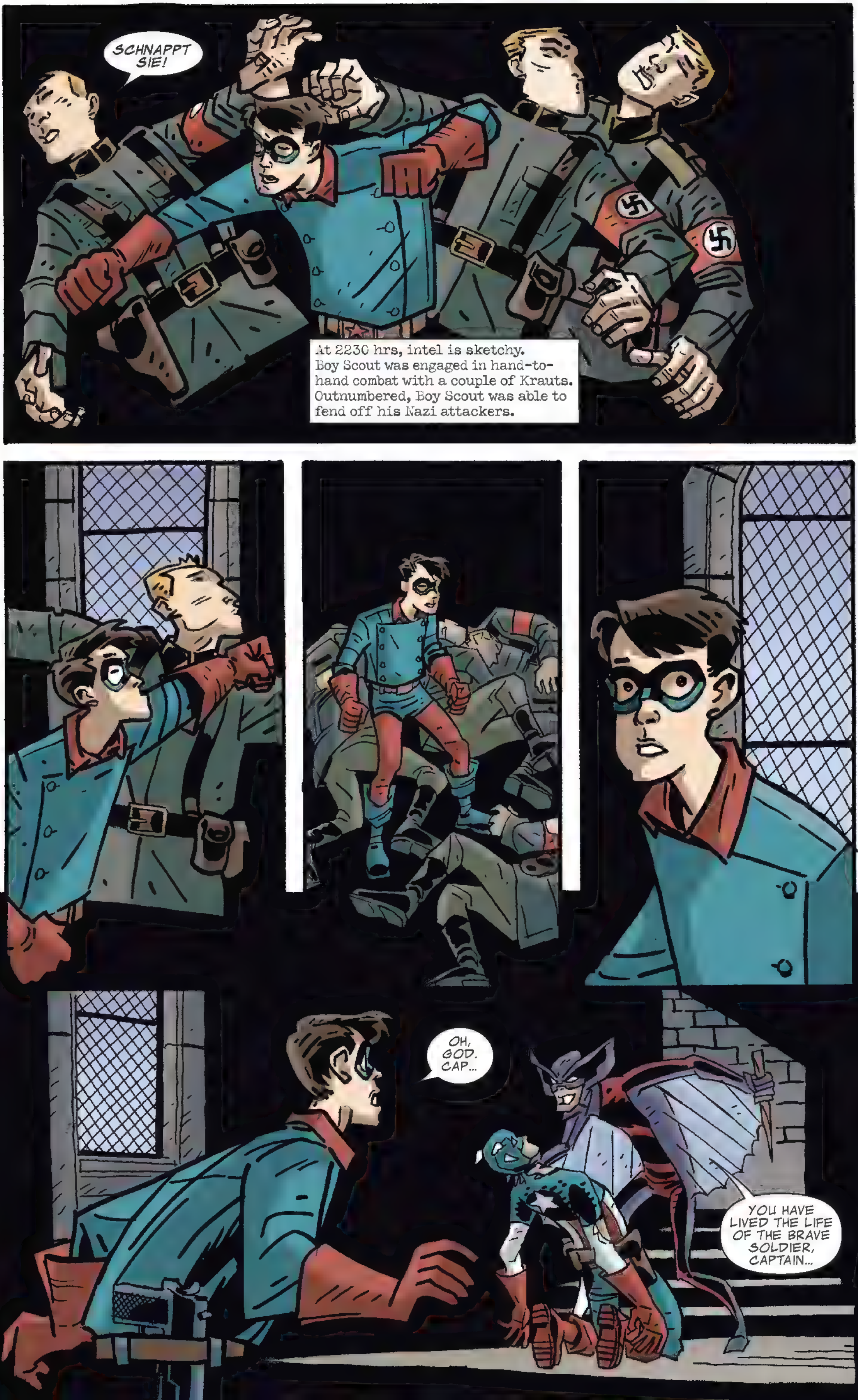
Imprisoned by the Gestapo, Jacobson was sent to work at the infamous laboratories; converted research facilities used to develop new poisonous gases and chemical weapons.

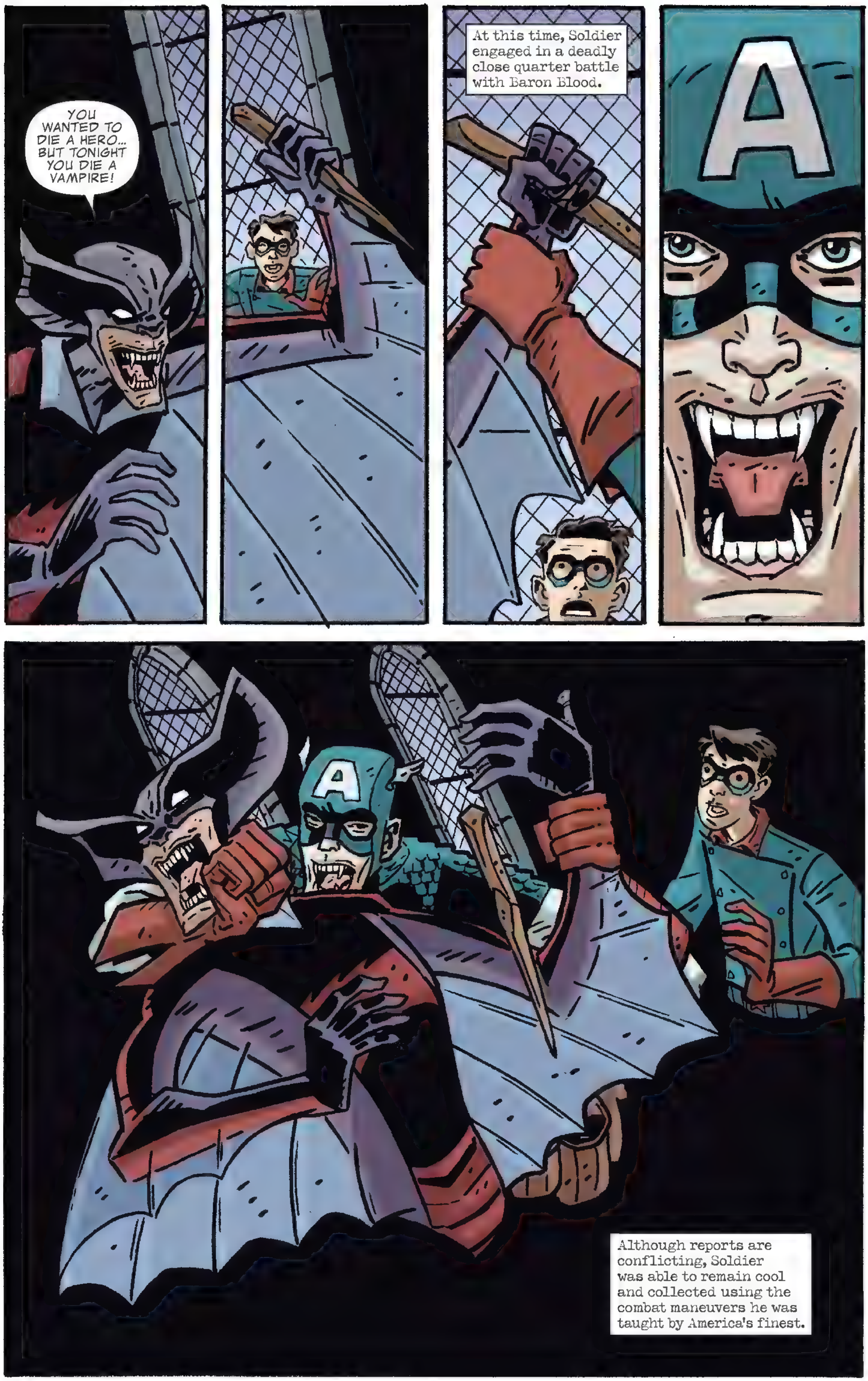

DR. JACOBSON?
WHOOOF!
AHHH!
DO NOT BE AFRAID.
WHAT DO YOU WANT? PLEASE DON'T HURT ME...
WE ARE FRIENDS. I AM PRINCE NAMOR OF ATLANTIS AND I GIVE YOU MY SOLEMN WORD, YOU SHALL NOT BE HARMED.
A COMRADE OF OURS HAS BEEN INFECTED BY THE ONE THEY CALL BARON BLOOD. HE IS SHOWING SIGNS OF THE SICKNESS.
FORGIVE US FOR SKIPPING THE CHIT-CHAT, DOC, BUT WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
WE HAVE HEARD YOU ARE WORKING ON A CURE.
I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR FRIEND. SADLY, THERE IS NO CURE. NOTHING WE DID COULD FIGHT THE VIRUS' POWERFUL STRAIN.
THE ONLY SUCCESS WE HAD WAS INJECTING THE BARON'S OWN BLOOD INTO THE INFECTED VICTIM. HOWEVER, IT DIDN'T ALWAYS WORK. AND IN SOME CASES RESULTED IN A SLOW AND AGONIZING DEMISE.

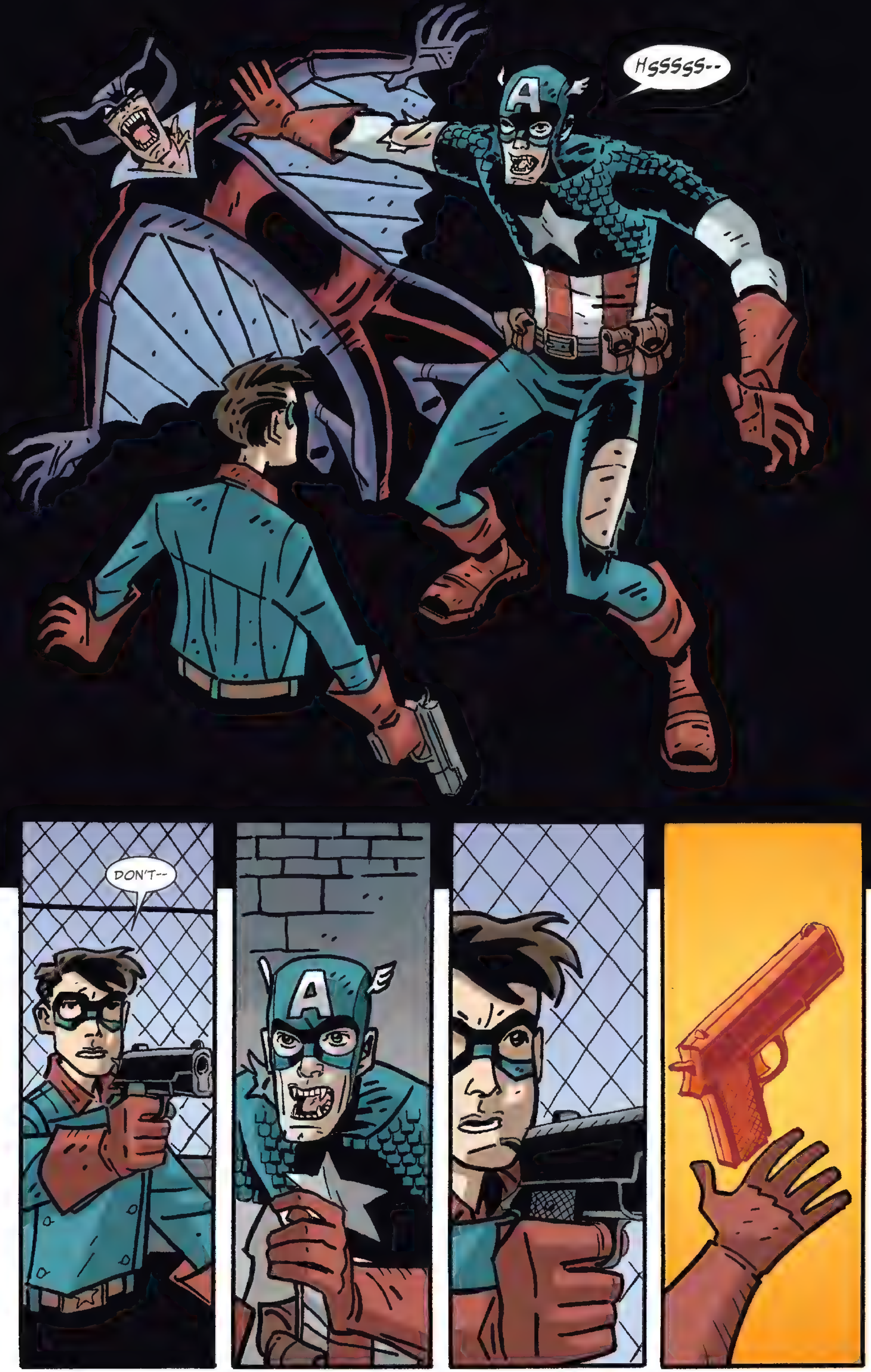


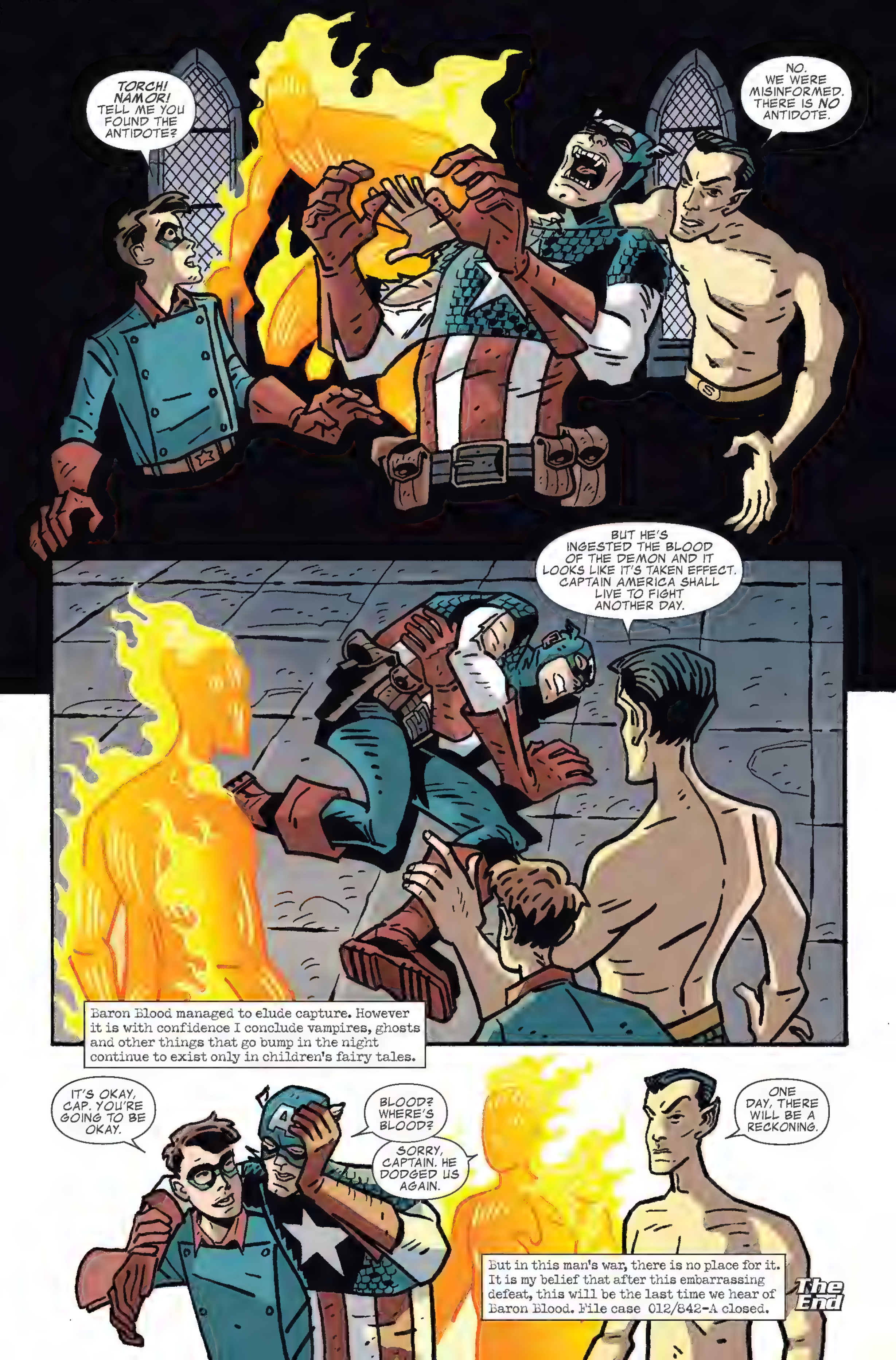
In a selfless act of heroism, weakened by the poison, the Soldier pressed forward, not allowing Baron Blood's trail to grow cold.

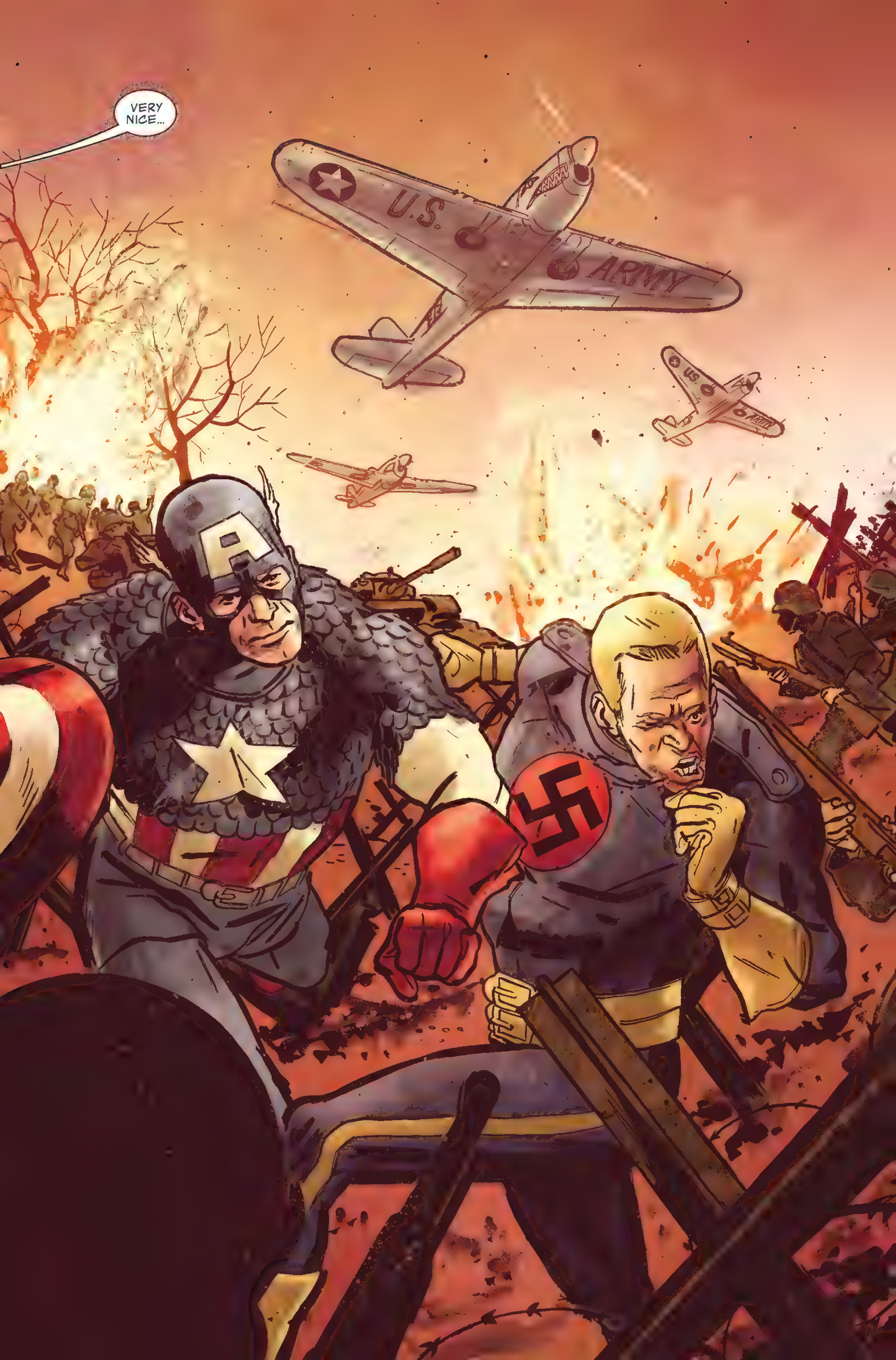
CAP-- HOW DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND BLOOD?
CAN'T EXPLAIN IT, BUT SOMETHING INSIDE ME--SOME TYPE OF CONNECTION--GUIDING ME TOWARD HIM...
HE'S HERE. INSIDE THAT CASTLE.
BUCKY-- I NEED YOU TO PROMISE ME SOMETHING.
SURE, CAP...WHAT IS IT?
TAKE MY GUN...
IF IT REACHES THE POINT WHERE I BEGIN TO CHANGE--
USE IT.
BUT--
LET'S GO.

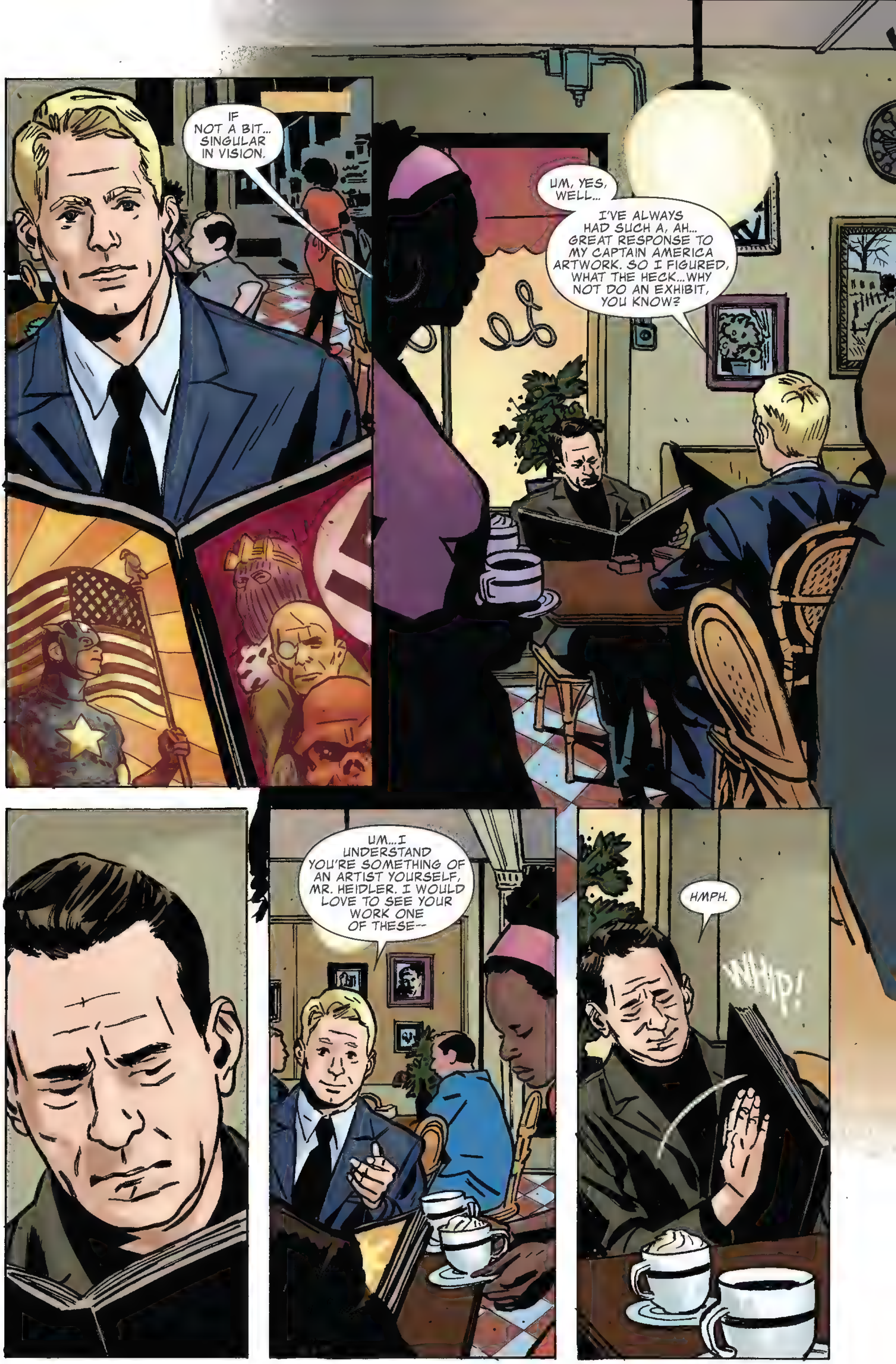

SCHNAPPT SIE!
At 2230 hrs, intel is sketchy. Boy Scout was engaged in hand-to-hand combat with a couple of Krauts. Outnumbered, Boy Scout was able to fend off his Nazi attackers.
OH, GOD. CAP...
YOU HAVE LIVED THE LIFE OF THE BRAVE SOLDIER, CAPTAIN...

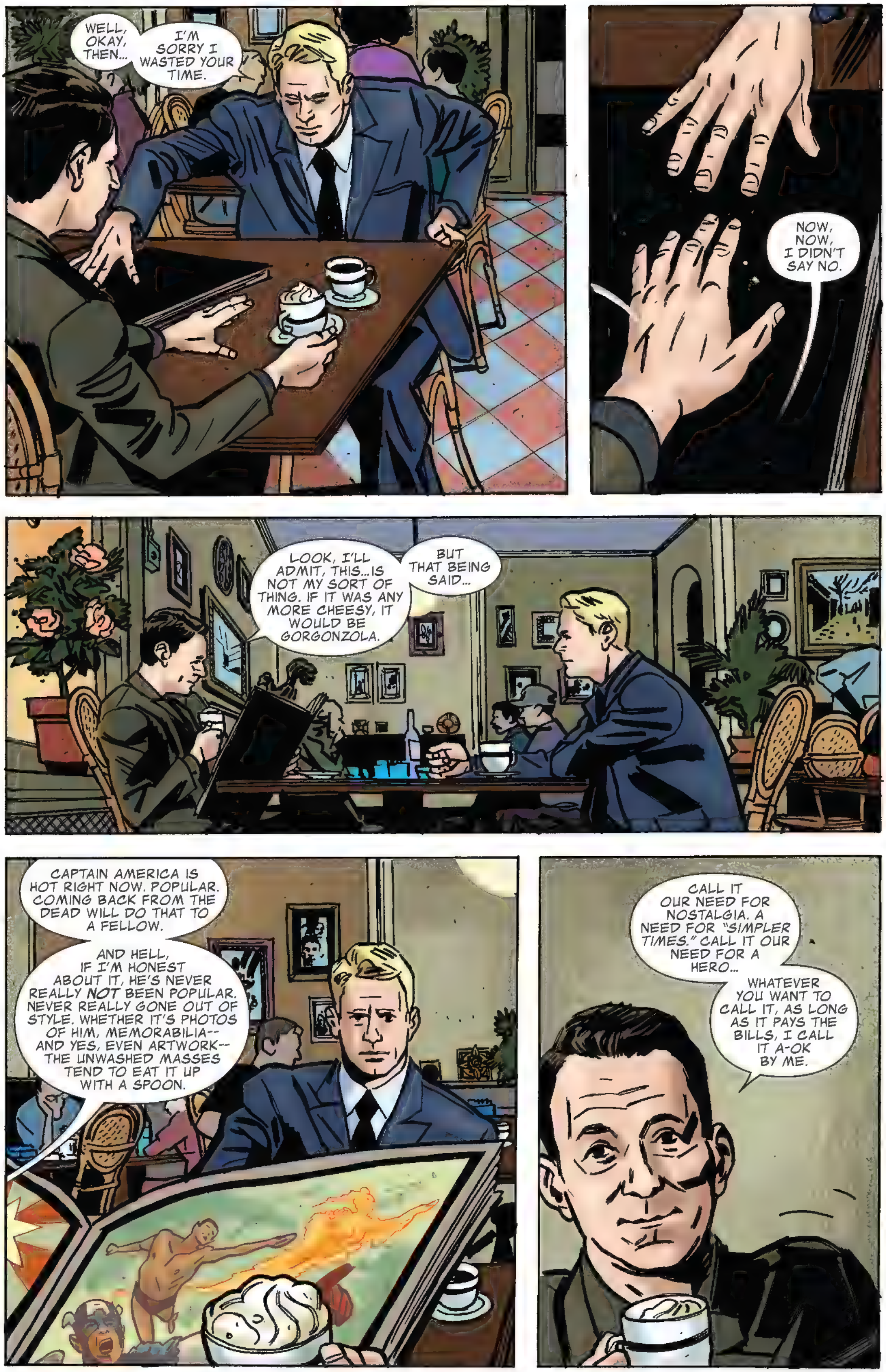

YOU WANTED TO DIE A HERO... BUT TONIGHT YOU DIE A VAMPIRE!
At this time, Soldier engaged in a deadly close quarter battle with Baron Blood.
Although reports are conflicting, Soldier was able to remain cool and collected using the combat maneuvers he was taught by America's finest.

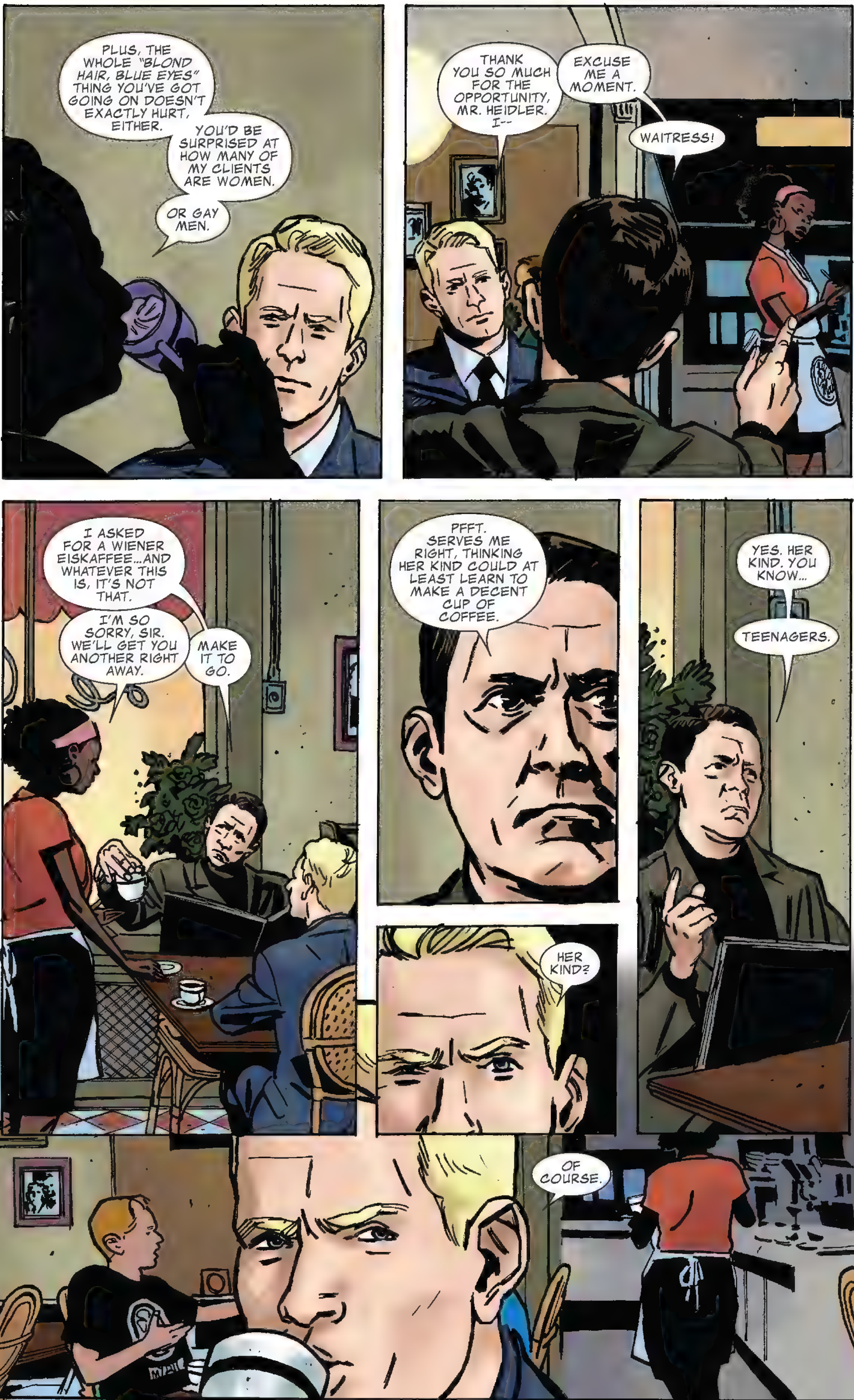

HSSSSS--
DON'T--

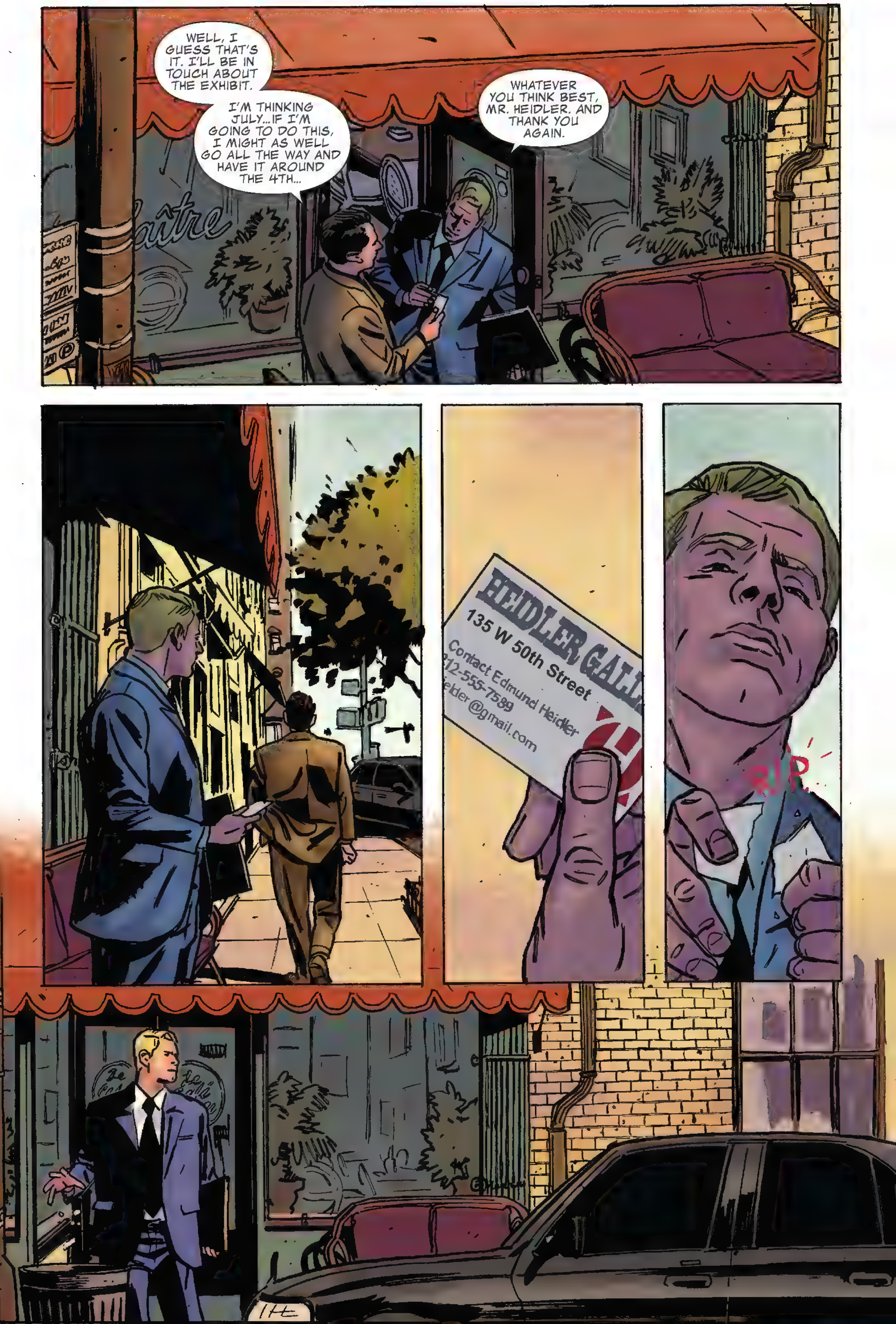

TORCH! NAMOR! TELL ME YOU FOUND THE ANTIDOTE?
NO. WE WERE MISINFORMED. THERE IS NO ANTIDOTE.
BUT HE'S INGESTED THE BLOOD OF THE DEMON AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S TAKEN EFFECT. CAPTAIN AMERICA SHALL LIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY.
Baron Blood managed to elude capture. However it is with confidence I conclude vampires, ghosts and other things that go bump in the night continue to exist only in children's fairy tales.
IT'S OKAY, CAP. YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY.
BLOOD? WHERE'S BLOOD?
SORRY, CAPTAIN. HE DODGED US AGAIN.
ONE DAY, THERE WILL BE A RECKONING.
But in this man's war, there is no place for it. It is my belief that after this embarrassing defeat, this will be the last time we hear of Baron Blood. File case 012/842-A closed.
The End

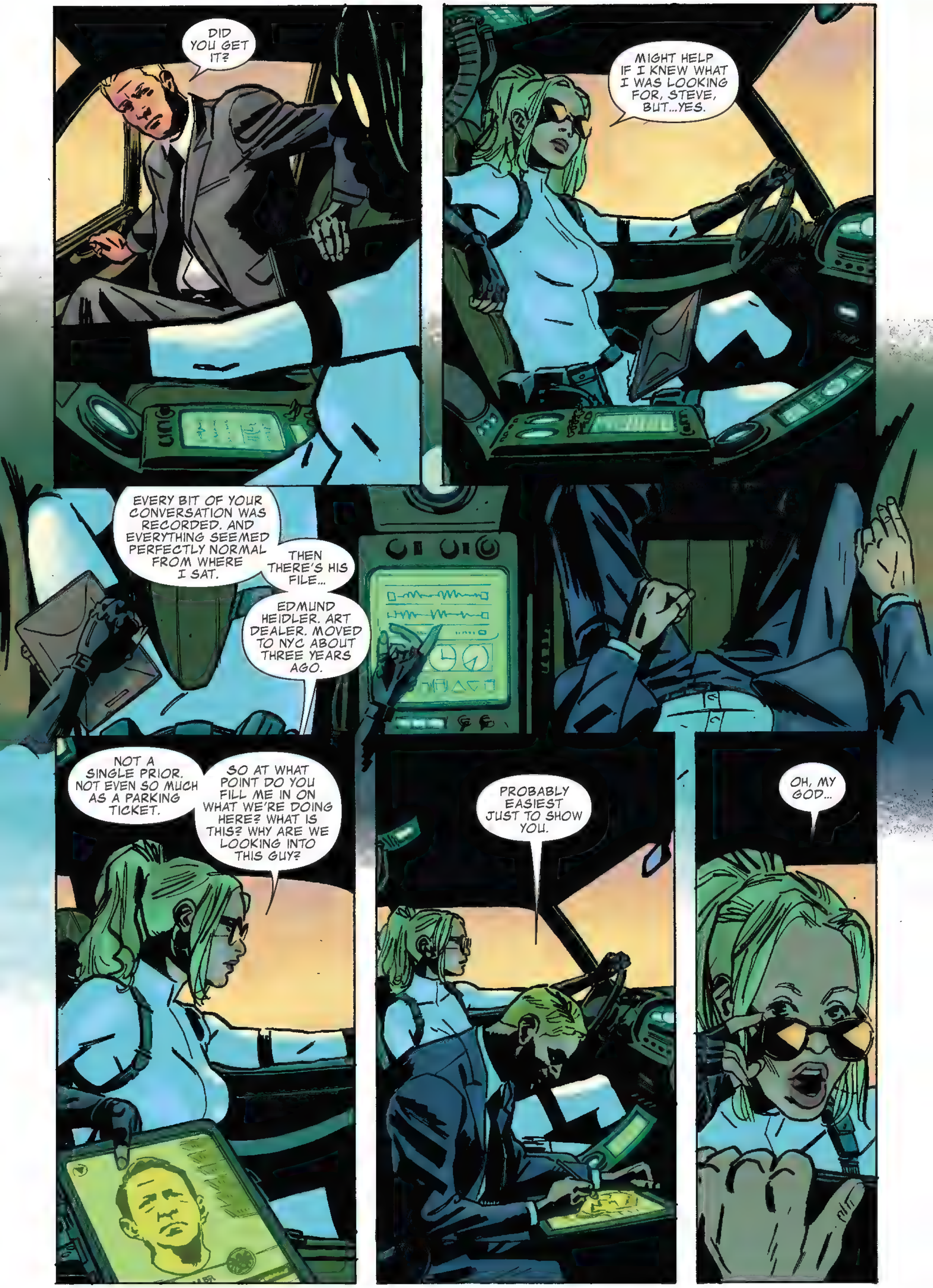

VERY NICE...
U.S.
ARMY
U.S.
ARMY

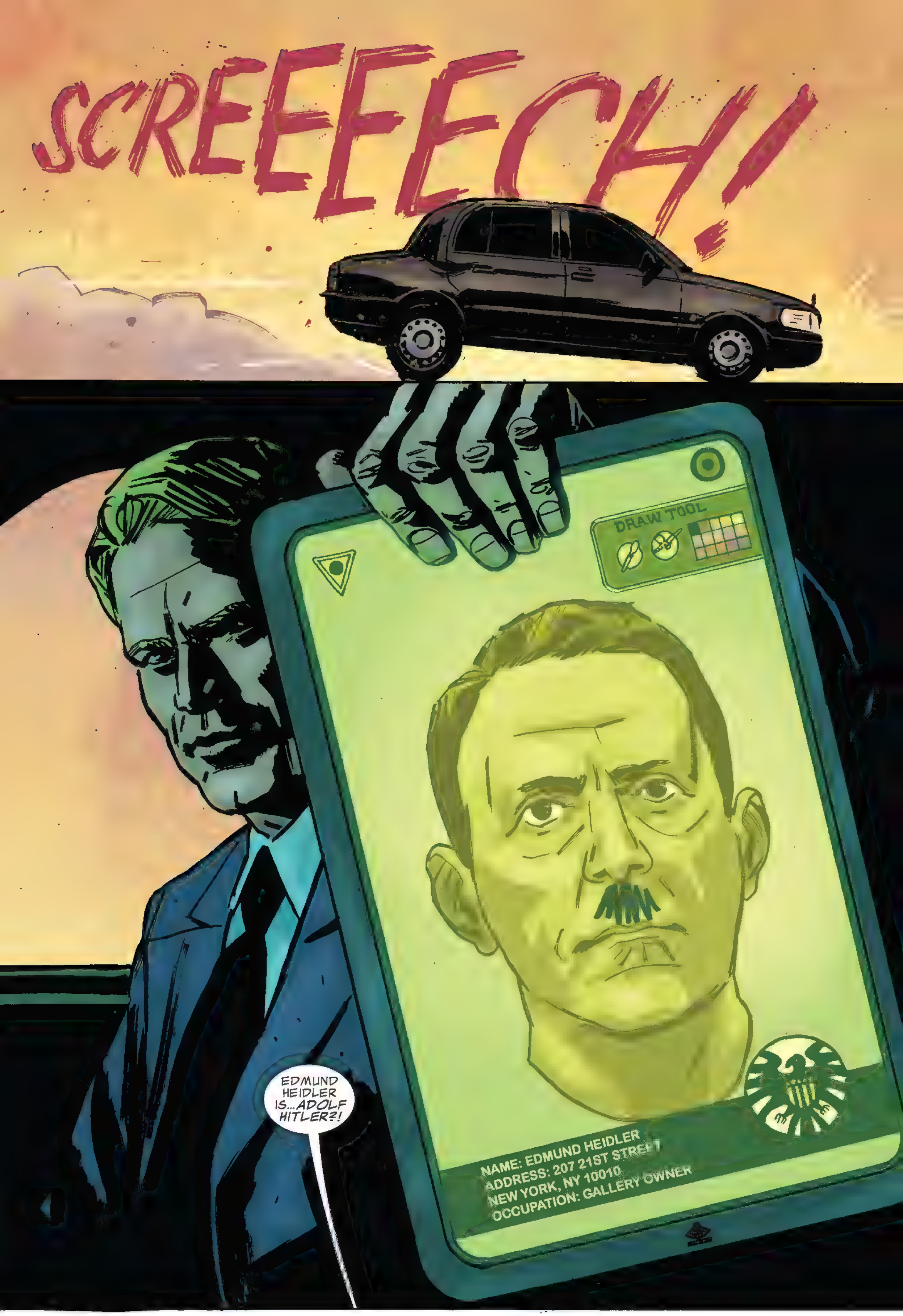

IF NOT A BIT... SINGULAR IN VISION.
UM, YES, WELL...
I'VE ALWAYS HAD SUCH A, AH... GREAT RESPONSE TO MY CAPTAIN AMERICA ARTWORK. SO I FIGURED, WHAT THE HECK...WHY NOT DO AN EXHIBIT, YOU KNOW?
UM...I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE SOMETHING OF AN ARTIST YOURSELF, MR. HEIDLER. I WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOUR WORK ONE OF THESE--
HMPH.
WHIP!

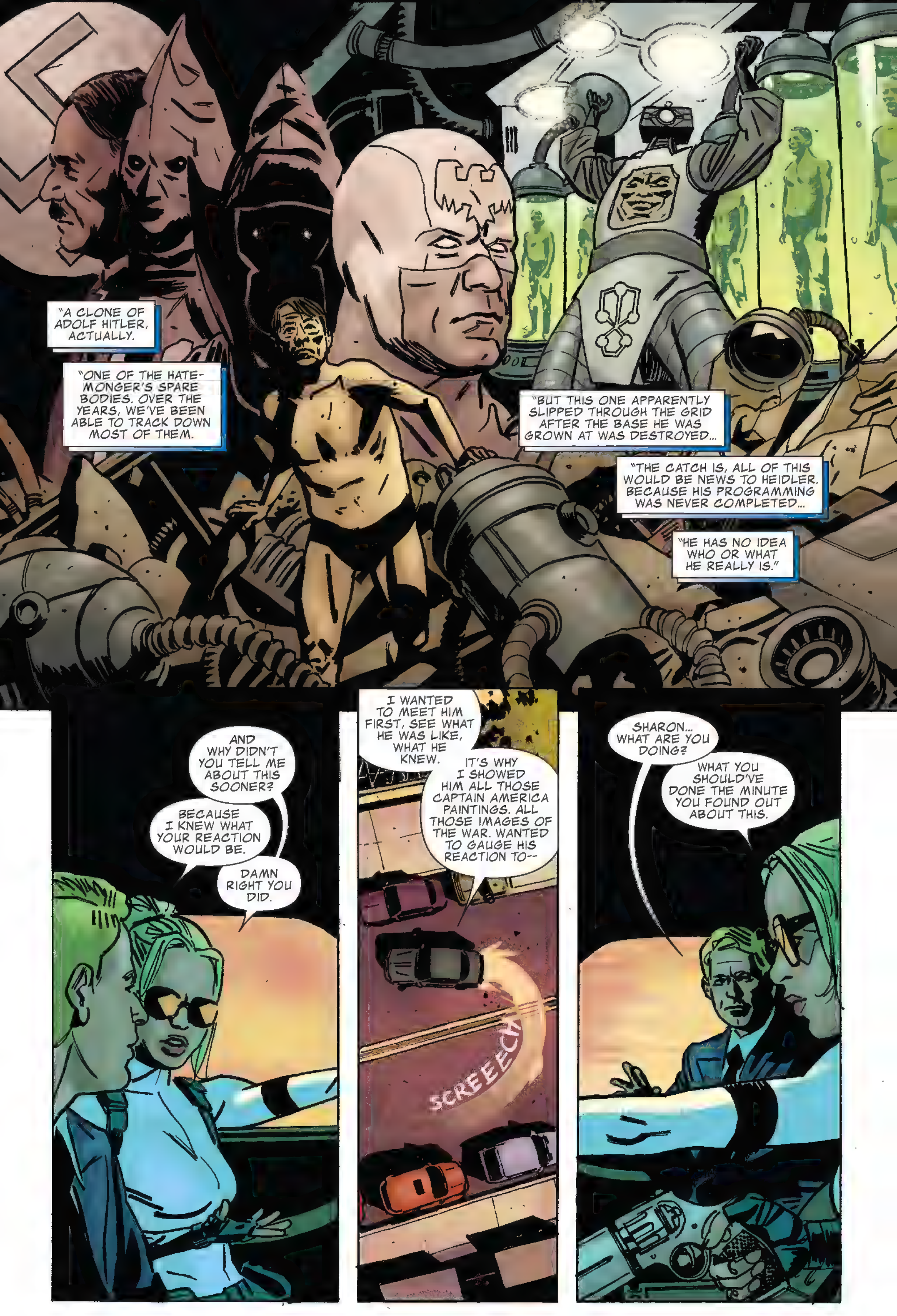

WELL, OKAY, THEN...
I'M SORRY I WASTED YOUR TIME.
NOW, NOW, I DIDN'T SAY NO.
LOOK, I'LL ADMIT, THIS...IS NOT MY SORT OF THING. IF IT WAS ANY MORE CHEESY, IT WOULD BE GORGONZOLA.
BUT THAT BEING SAID...
CAPTAIN AMERICA IS HOT RIGHT NOW. POPULAR. COMING BACK FROM THE DEAD WILL DO THAT TO A FELLOW.
AND HELL, IF I'M HONEST ABOUT IT, HE'S NEVER REALLY *NOT* BEEN POPULAR. NEVER REALLY GONE OUT OF STYLE. WHETHER IT'S PHOTOS OF HIM, MEMORABILIA-- AND YES, EVEN ARTWORK-- THE UNWASHED MASSES TEND TO EAT IT UP WITH A SPOON.
CALL IT OUR NEED FOR NOSTALGIA. A NEED FOR "SIMPLER TIMES." CALL IT OUR NEED FOR A HERO...
WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT, AS LONG AS IT PAYS THE BILLS, I CALL IT A-OK BY ME.

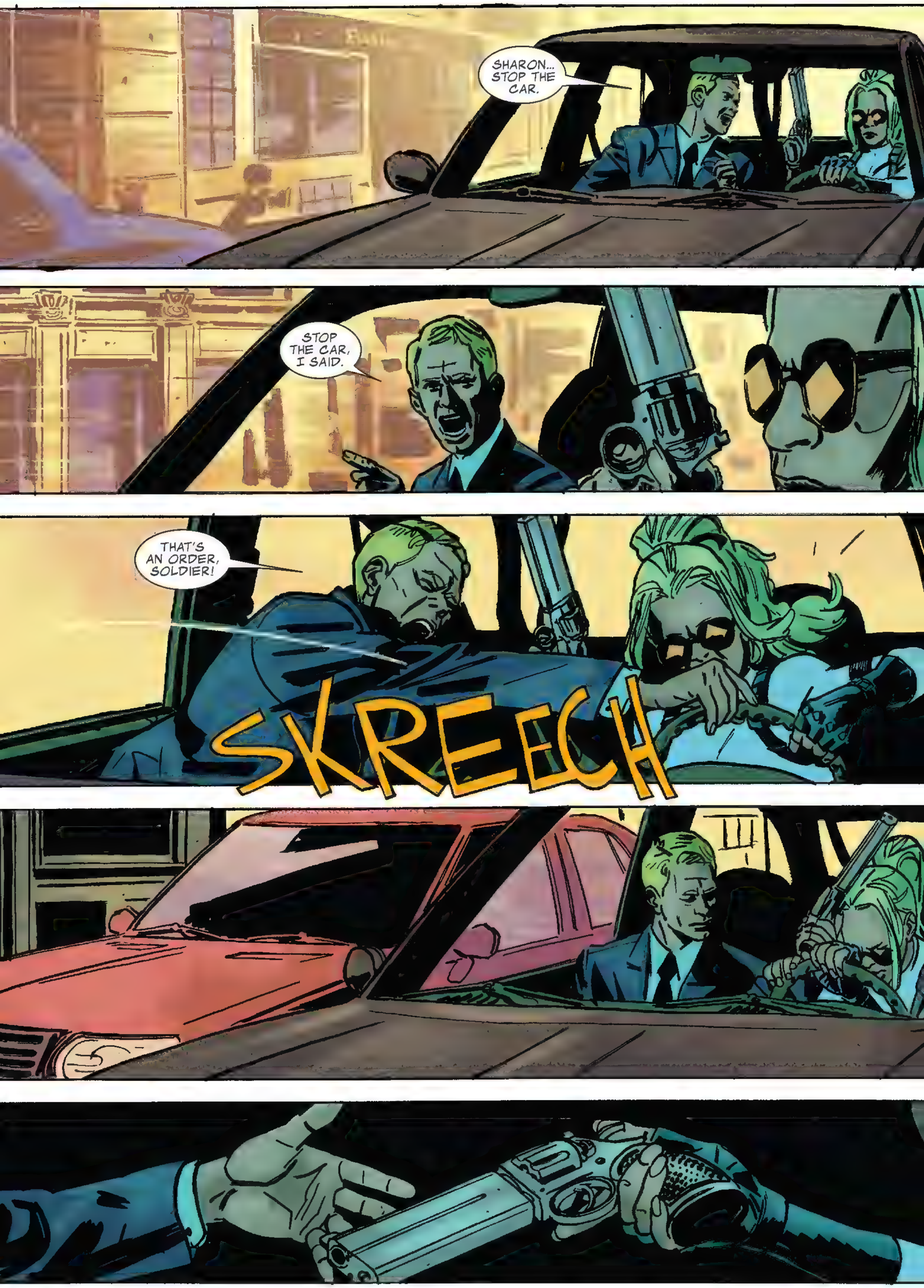

PLUS, THE WHOLE "BLOND HAIR, BLUE EYES" THING YOU'VE GOT GOING ON DOESN'T EXACTLY HURT, EITHER.
YOU'D BE SURPRISED AT HOW MANY OF MY CLIENTS ARE WOMEN.
OR GAY MEN.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE OPPORTUNITY, MR. HEIDLER. I--
EXCUSE ME A MOMENT.
WAITRESS!
I ASKED FOR A WIENER EISKAFFEE...AND WHATEVER THIS IS, IT'S NOT THAT.
I'M SO SORRY, SIR. WE'LL GET YOU ANOTHER RIGHT AWAY.
MAKE IT TO GO.
PFFT. SERVES ME RIGHT, THINKING HER KIND COULD AT LEAST LEARN TO MAKE A DECENT CUP OF COFFEE.
YES. HER KIND. YOU KNOW...
TEENAGERS.
HER KIND?
OF COURSE.

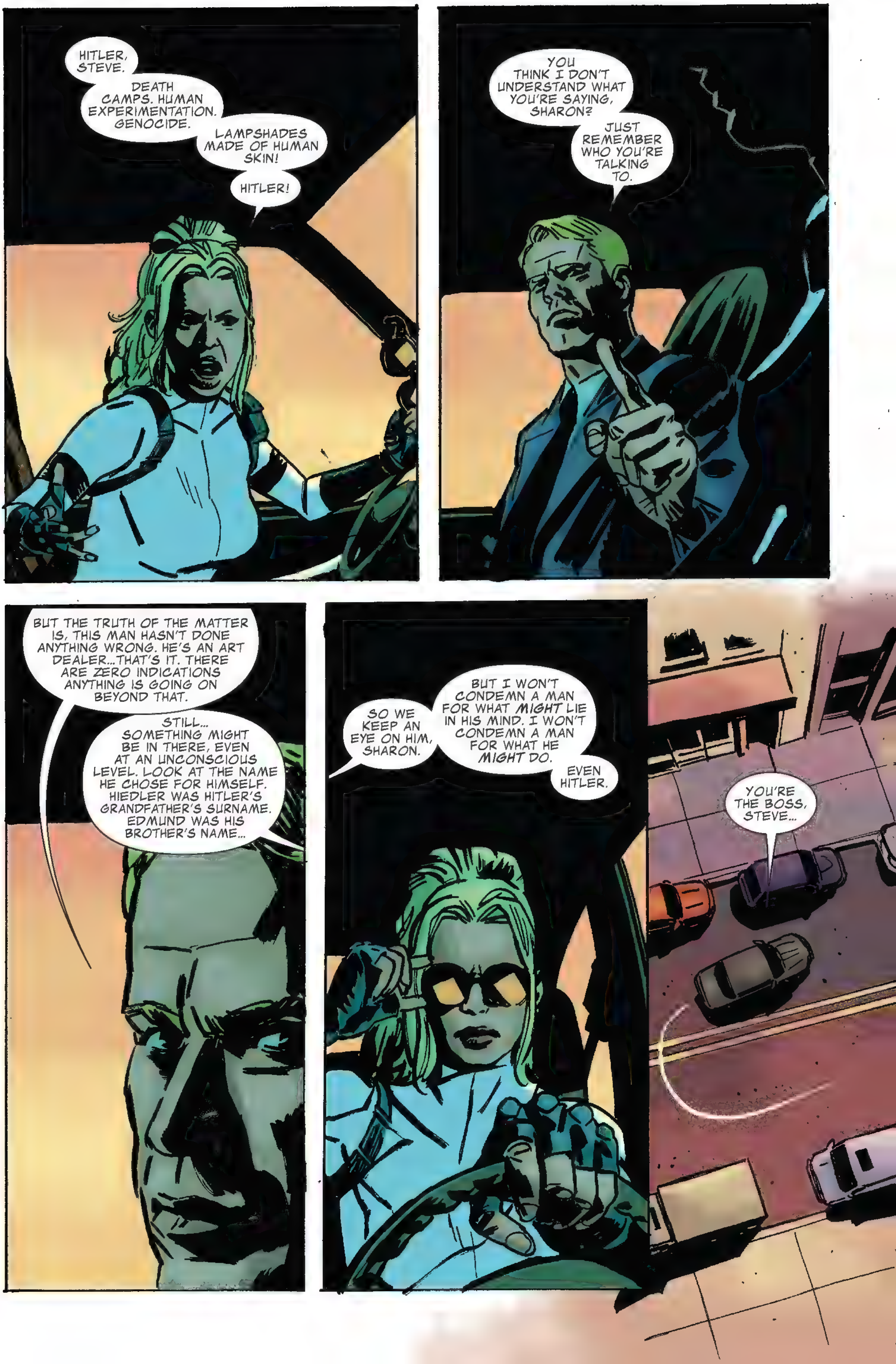

WELL, I GUESS THAT'S IT. I'LL BE IN TOUCH ABOUT THE EXHIBIT.
I'M THINKING JULY...IF I'M GOING TO DO THIS, I MIGHT AS WELL GO ALL THE WAY AND HAVE IT AROUND THE 4TH...
WHATEVER YOU THINK BEST, MR. HEIDLER. AND THANK YOU AGAIN.
aître
HEIDLER GALL
135 W 50th Street
Contact Edmund Heidler
12-555-7589
eidler@gmail.com
RIP

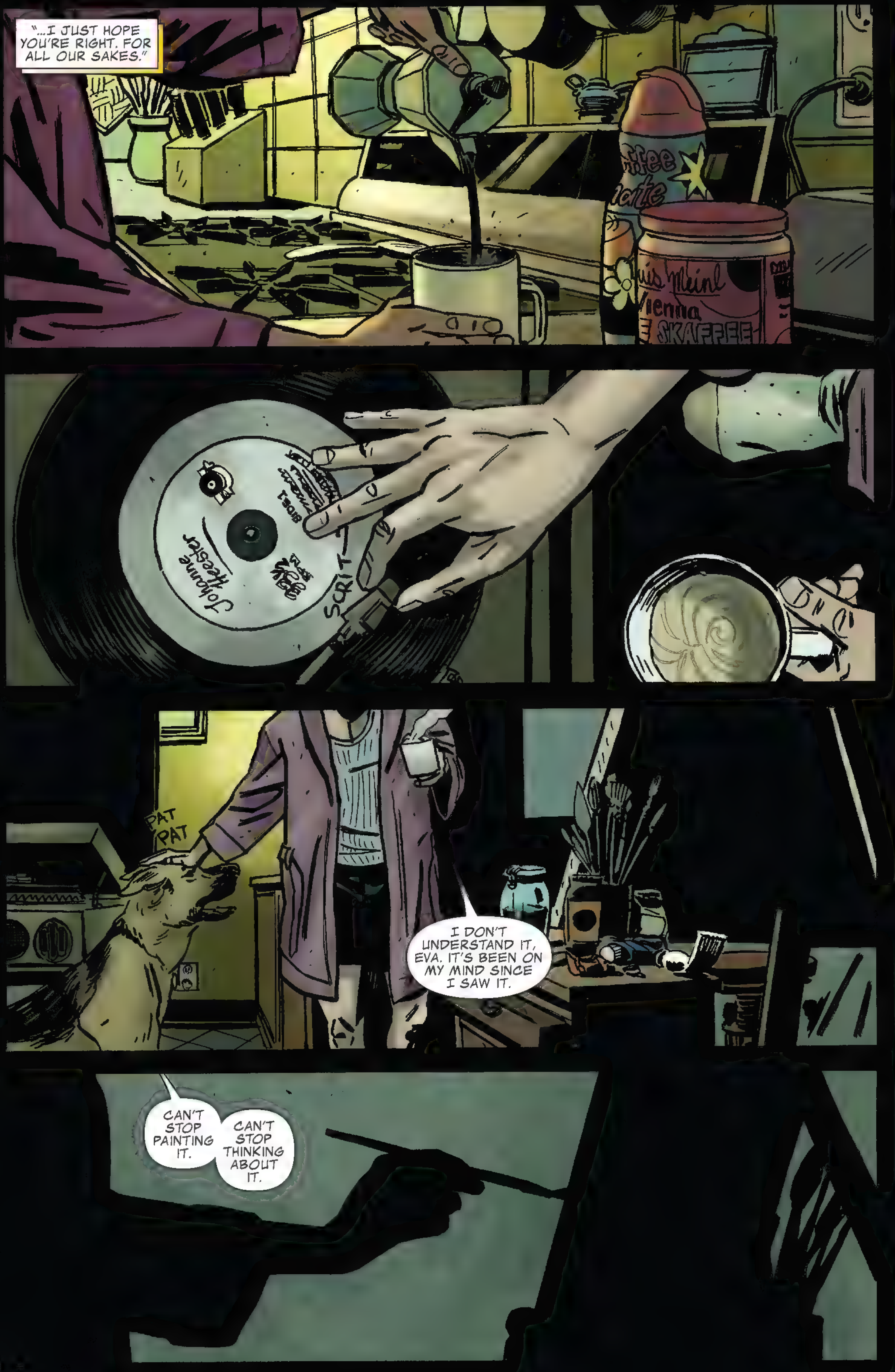

DID YOU GET IT?
MIGHT HELP IF I KNEW WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR, STEVE, BUT...YES.
EVERY BIT OF YOUR CONVERSATION WAS RECORDED. AND EVERYTHING SEEMED PERFECTLY NORMAL FROM WHERE I SAT.
THEN THERE'S HIS FILE...
EDMUND HEIDLER. ART DEALER. MOVED TO NYC ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO.
NOT A SINGLE PRIOR. NOT EVEN SO MUCH AS A PARKING TICKET.
SO AT WHAT POINT DO YOU FILL ME IN ON WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE? WHAT IS THIS? WHY ARE WE LOOKING INTO THIS GUY?
PROBABLY EASIEST JUST TO SHOW YOU.
OH, MY GOD...

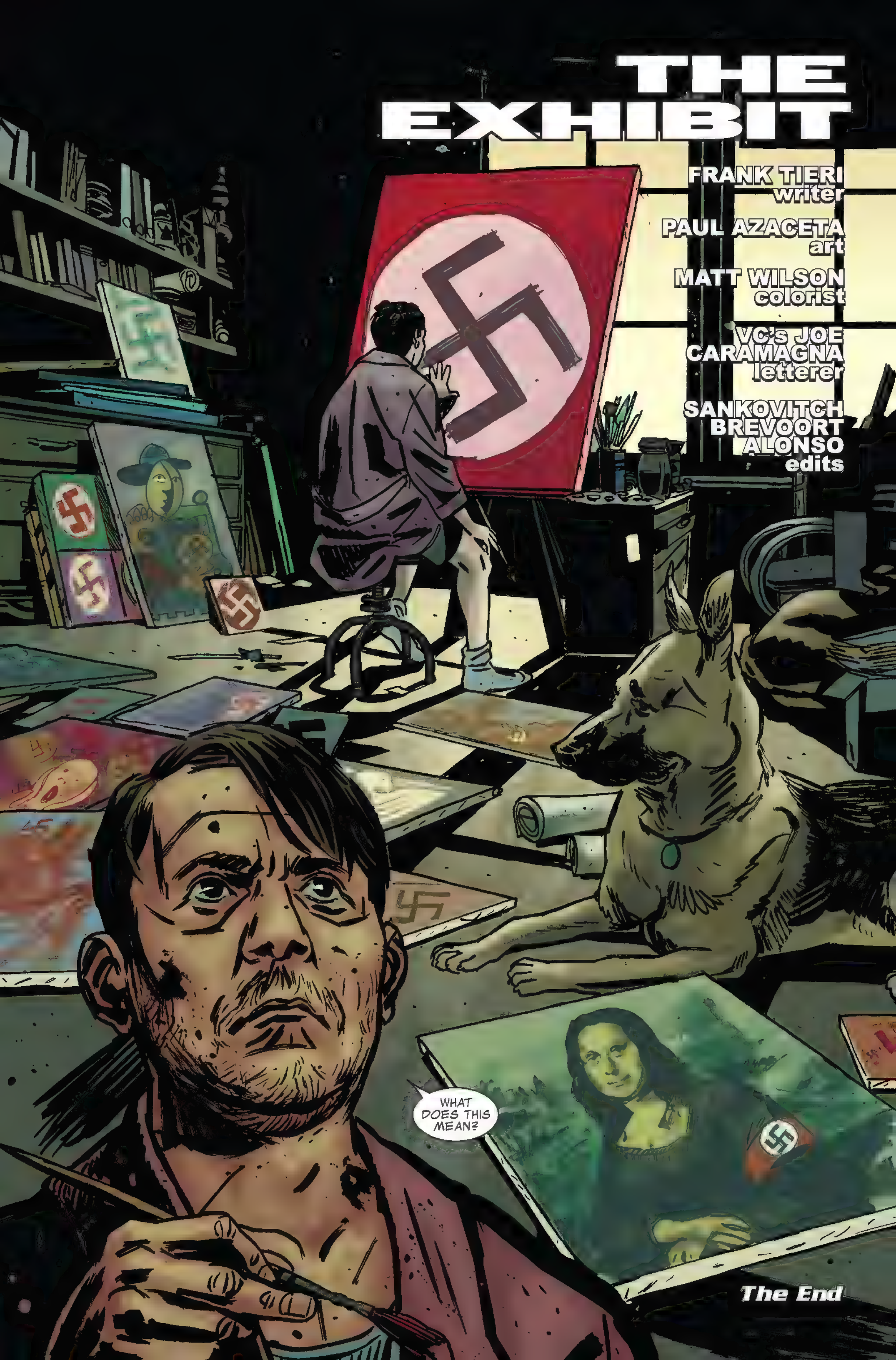

SCREEEECH!
DRAW TOOL
NAME: EDMUND HEIDLER
ADDRESS: 207 21ST STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10010
OCCUPATION: GALLERY OWNER
EDMUND HEIDLER IS...ADOLF HITLER?!


"A CLONE OF ADOLF HITLER, ACTUALLY.
"ONE OF THE HATE-MONGER'S SPARE BODIES. OVER THE YEARS, WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO TRACK DOWN MOST OF THEM.
"BUT THIS ONE APPARENTLY SLIPPED THROUGH THE GRID AFTER THE BASE HE WAS GROWN AT WAS DESTROYED...
"THE CATCH IS, ALL OF THIS WOULD BE NEWS TO HEIDLER. BECAUSE HIS PROGRAMMING WAS NEVER COMPLETED...
"HE HAS NO IDEA WHO OR WHAT HE REALLY IS."
AND WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ABOUT THIS SOONER?
BECAUSE I KNEW WHAT YOUR REACTION WOULD BE.
DAMN RIGHT YOU DID.
I WANTED TO MEET HIM FIRST, SEE WHAT HE WAS LIKE, WHAT HE KNEW.
IT'S WHY I SHOWED HIM ALL THOSE CAPTAIN AMERICA PAINTINGS. ALL THOSE IMAGES OF THE WAR. WANTED TO GAUGE HIS REACTION TO--
SCREEECH
SHARON... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHAT YOU SHOULD'VE DONE THE MINUTE YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS.


SHARON... STOP THE CAR.
STOP THE CAR, I SAID.
THAT'S AN ORDER, SOLDIER!
SKREECH


HITLER, STEVE.
DEATH CAMPS. HUMAN EXPERIMENTATION. GENOCIDE.
LAMPSHADES MADE OF HUMAN SKIN!
HITLER!
YOU THINK I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, SHARON?
JUST REMEMBER WHO YOU'RE TALKING TO.
BUT THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER IS, THIS MAN HASN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG. HE'S AN ART DEALER...THAT'S IT. THERE ARE ZERO INDICATIONS ANYTHING IS GOING ON BEYOND THAT.
STILL... SOMETHING MIGHT BE IN THERE, EVEN AT AN UNCONSCIOUS LEVEL. LOOK AT THE NAME HE CHOSE FOR HIMSELF. HIEDLER WAS HITLER'S GRANDFATHER'S SURNAME. EDMUND WAS HIS BROTHER'S NAME...
SO WE KEEP AN EYE ON HIM, SHARON.
BUT I WON'T CONDEMN A MAN FOR WHAT *MIGHT* LIE IN HIS MIND. I WON'T CONDEMN A MAN FOR WHAT HE *MIGHT* DO.
EVEN HITLER.
YOU'RE THE BOSS, STEVE...


"...I JUST HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT. FOR ALL OUR SAKES."
ffee arte
uis Meinl Vienna SKAFFEE
Johanne Heester
SCRIT
PAT PAT
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT, EVA. IT'S BEEN ON MY MIND SINCE I SAW IT.
CAN'T STOP PAINTING IT.
CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

THE EXHIBIT

FRANK TIERI
writer

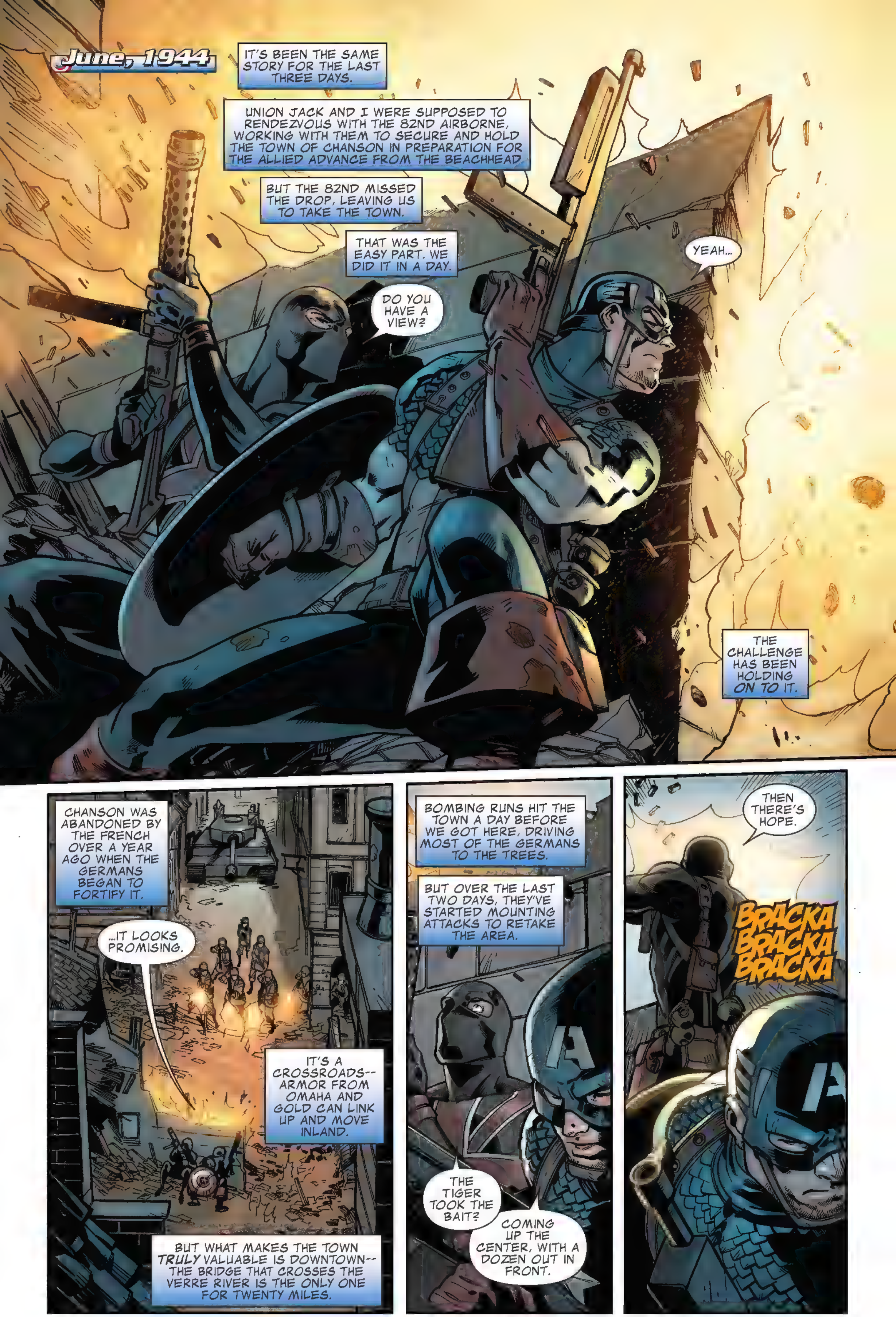
PAUL AZACETA
art

MATT WILSON
colorist

VC's JOE CARAMAGNA
letterer

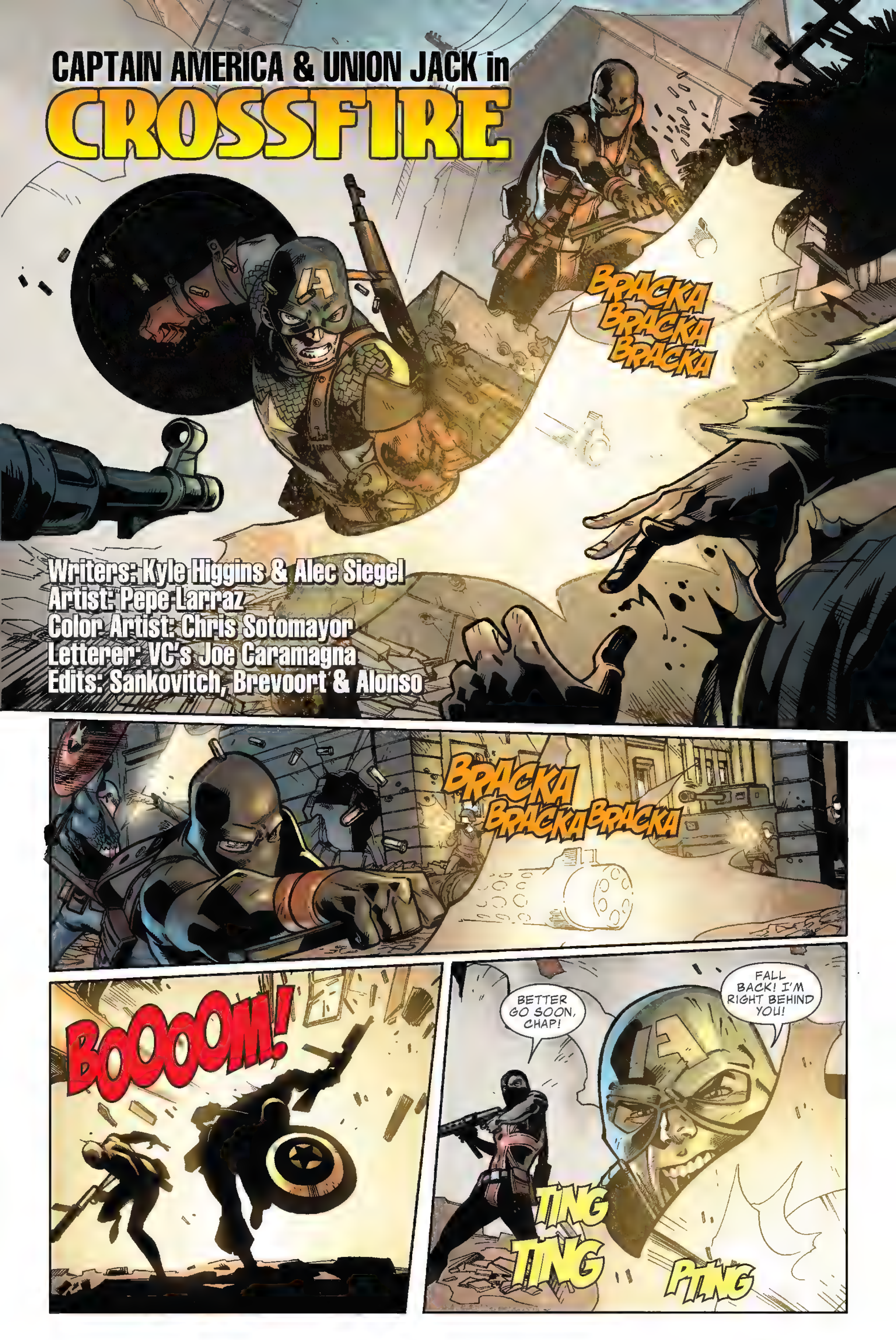
SANKOVITCH
BREVOORT
ALONSO
edits

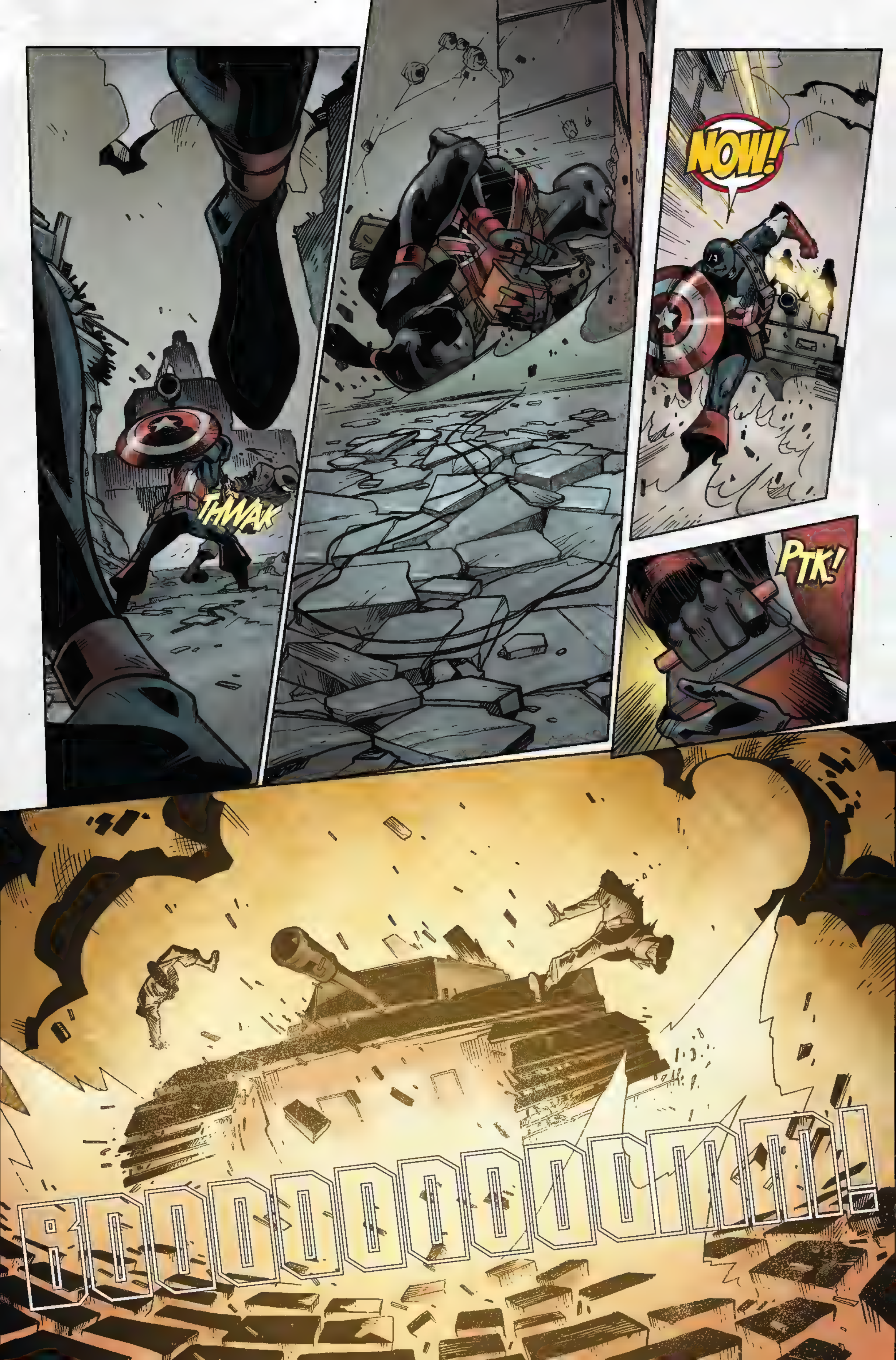
The End

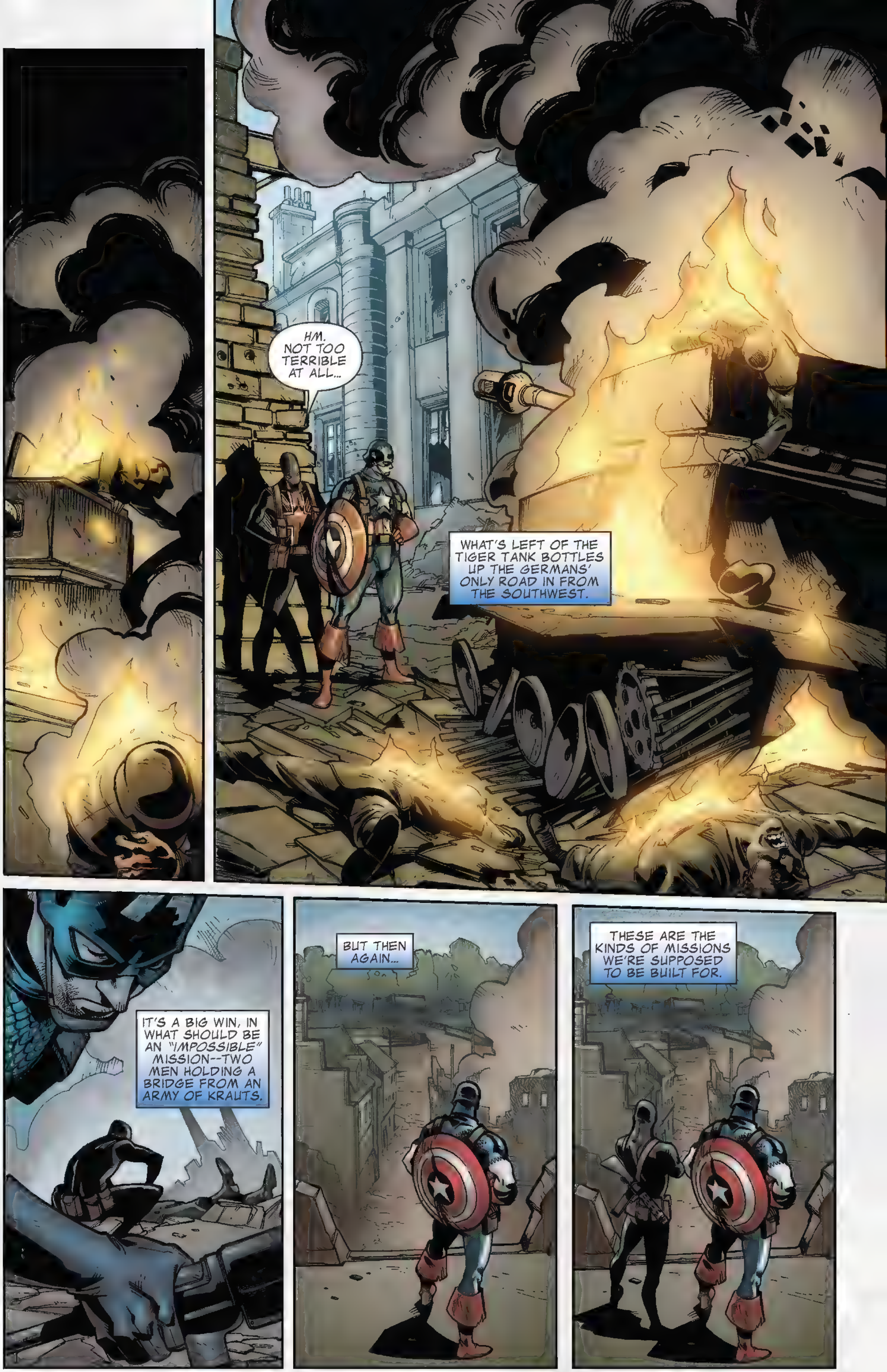

June, 1944
IT'S BEEN THE SAME STORY FOR THE LAST THREE DAYS.
UNION JACK AND I WERE SUPPOSED TO RENDEZVOUS WITH THE 82ND AIRBORNE, WORKING WITH THEM TO SECURE AND HOLD THE TOWN OF CHANSON IN PREPARATION FOR THE ALLIED ADVANCE FROM THE BEACHHEAD.
BUT THE 82ND MISSED THE DROP, LEAVING US TO TAKE THE TOWN.
THAT WAS THE EASY PART. WE DID IT IN A DAY.
DO YOU HAVE A VIEW?
YEAH...
THE CHALLENGE HAS BEEN HOLDING ON TO IT.
CHANSON WAS ABANDONED BY THE FRENCH OVER A YEAR AGO WHEN THE GERMANS BEGAN TO FORTIFY IT.
...IT LOOKS PROMISING.
IT'S A CROSSROADS--ARMOR FROM OMAHA AND GOLD CAN LINK UP AND MOVE INLAND.
BUT WHAT MAKES THE TOWN *TRULY* VALUABLE IS DOWNTOWN--THE BRIDGE THAT CROSSES THE VERRE RIVER IS THE ONLY ONE FOR TWENTY MILES.
BOMBING RUNS HIT THE TOWN A DAY BEFORE WE GOT HERE, DRIVING MOST OF THE GERMANS TO THE TREES.
BUT OVER THE LAST TWO DAYS, THEY'VE STARTED MOUNTING ATTACKS TO RETAKE THE AREA.
THE TIGER TOOK THE BAIT?
COMING UP THE CENTER, WITH A DOZEN OUT IN FRONT.
THEN THERE'S HOPE.
BRACKA BRACKA BRACKA

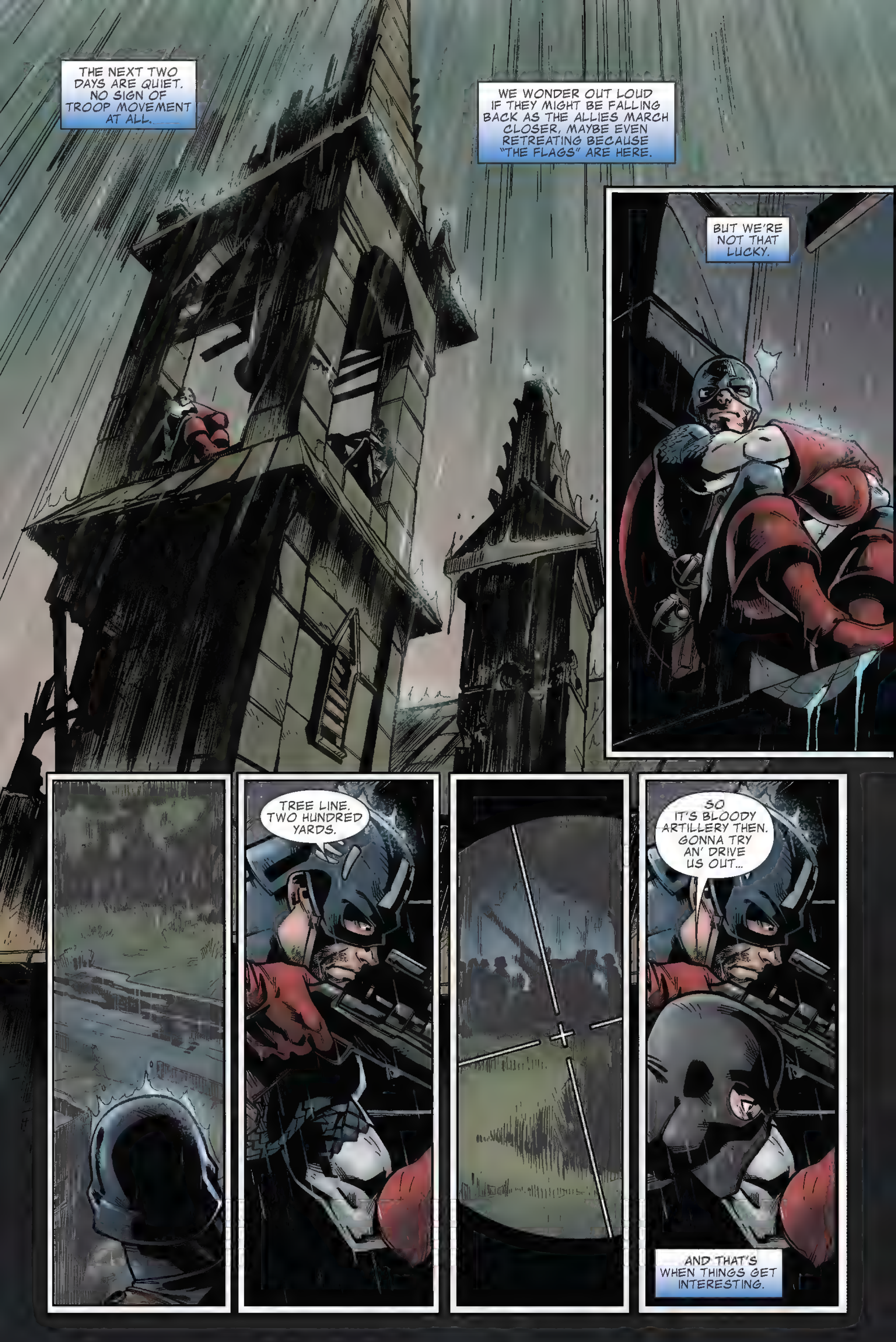
CAPTAIN AMERICA & UNION JACK in CROSSFIRE

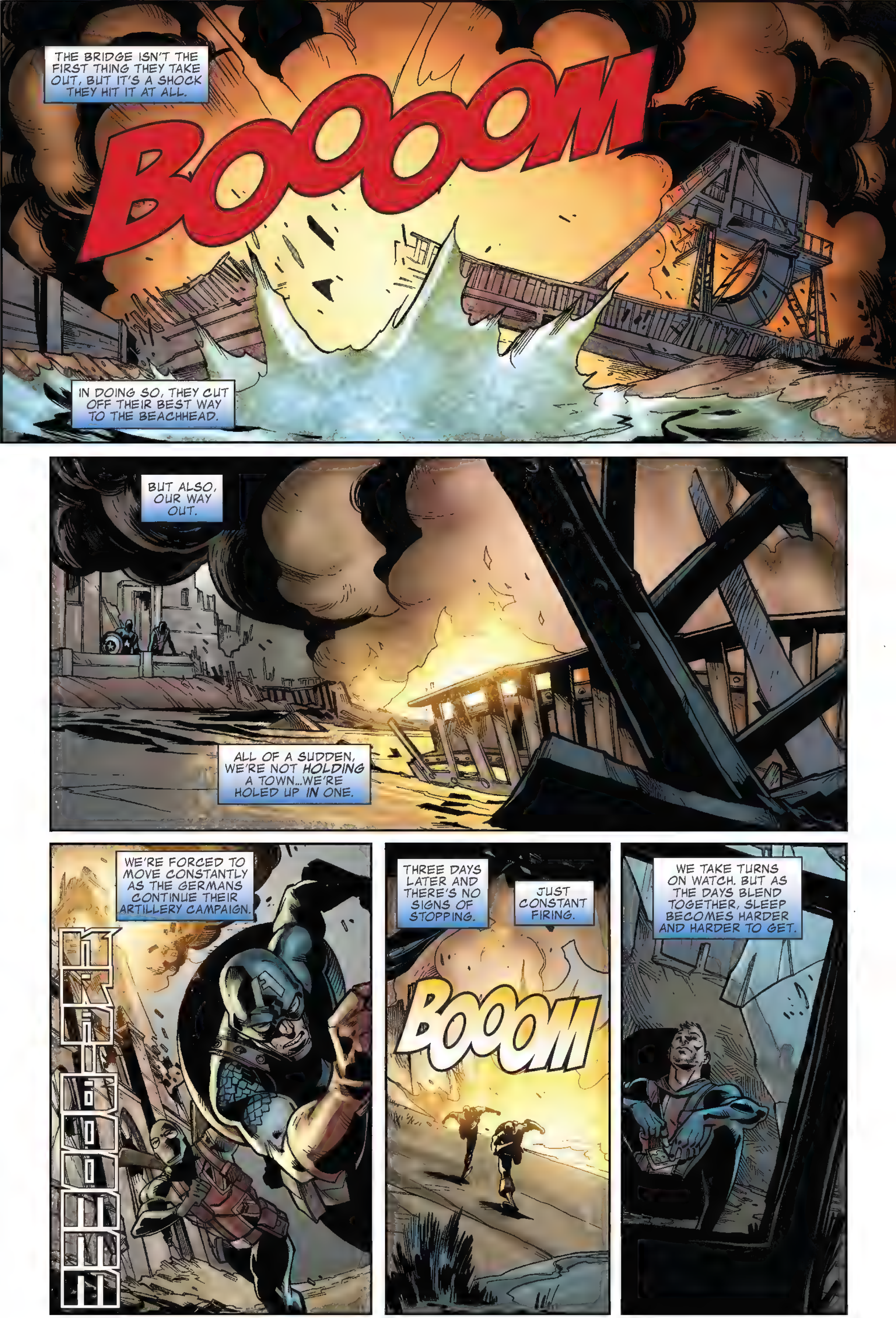
Writers: Kyle Higgins & Alec Siegel
Artist: Pepe Larraz
Color Artist: Chris Sotomayor
Letterer: VC's Joe Caramagna
Edits: Sankovitch, Brevoort & Alonso

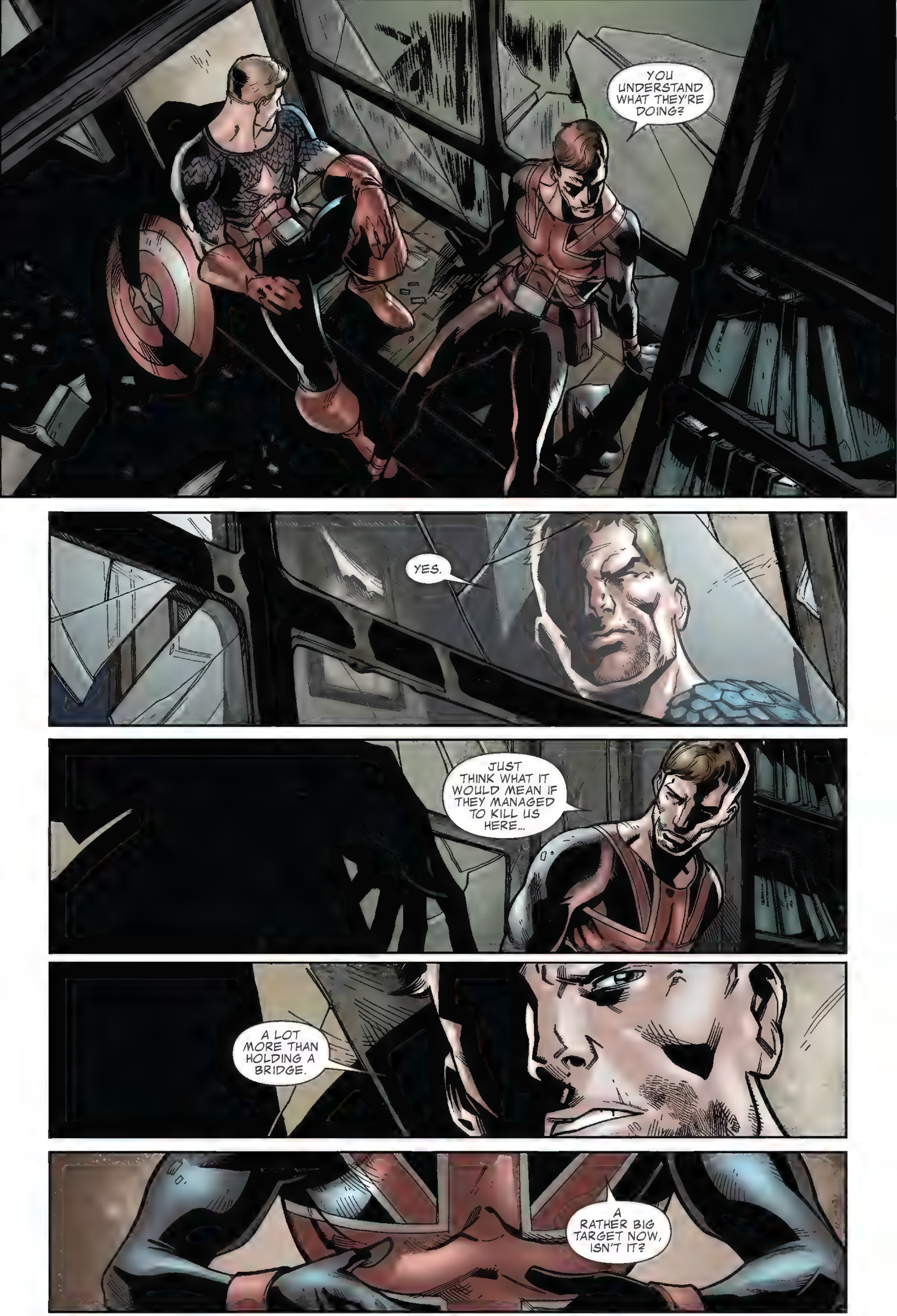

BRACKA BRACKA BRACKA
BRACKA BRACKA BRACKA
BOOOOM!
BETTER GO SOON, CHAP!
FALL BACK! I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
TING TING
PTING

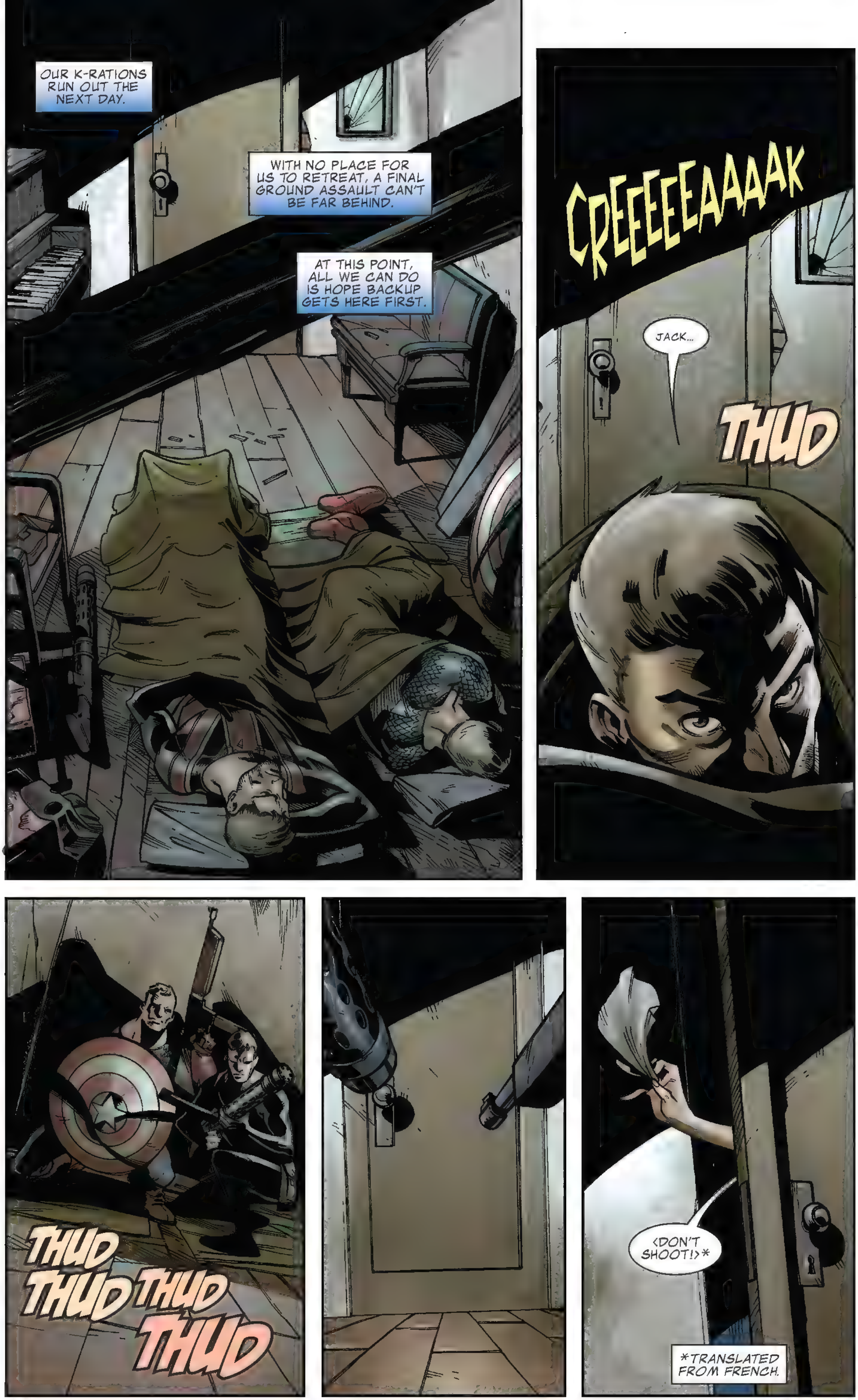

THWAK
NOW!
PTK!
BOOOOOOOOOOMM!

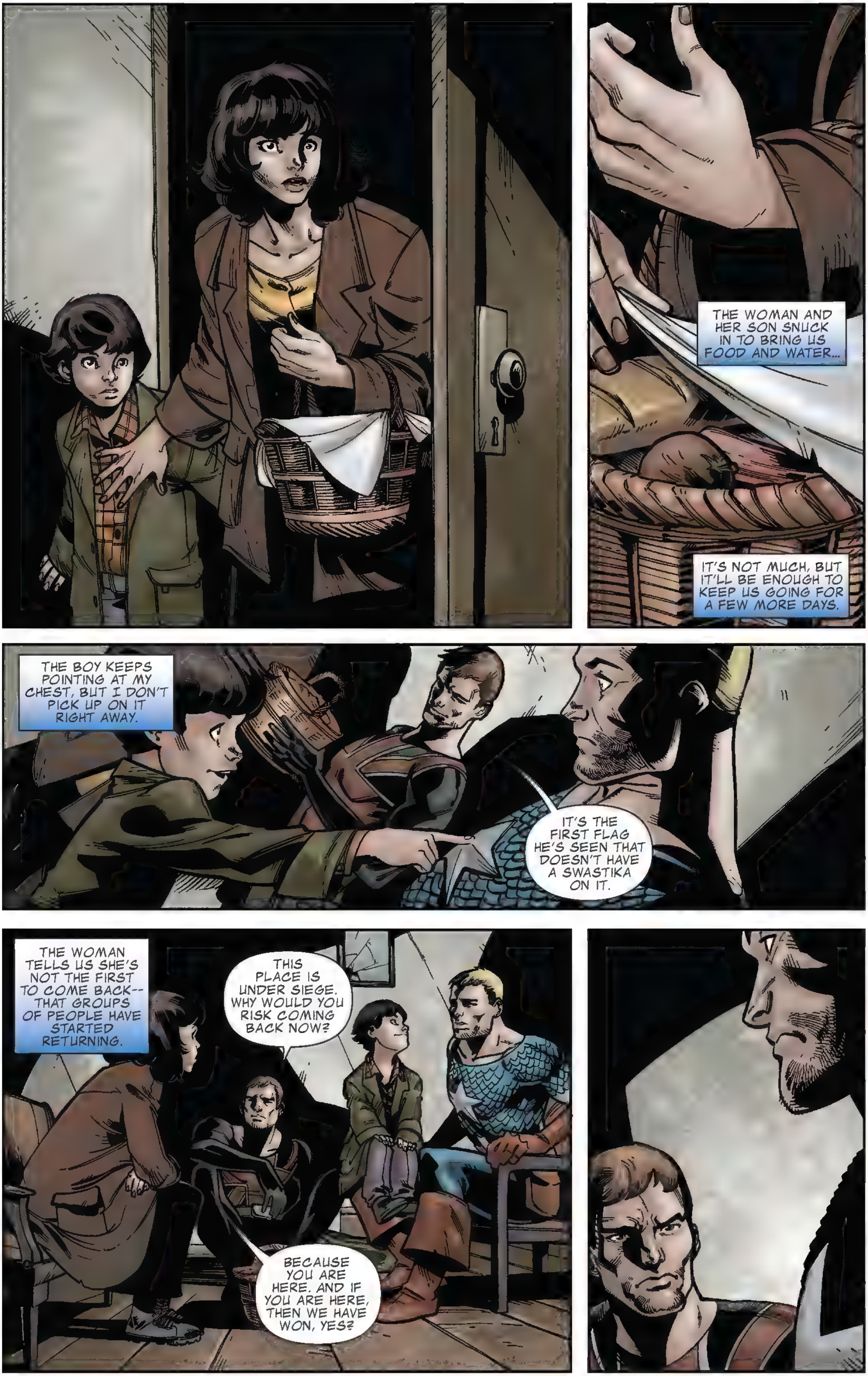

HM. NOT TOO TERRIBLE AT ALL...
WHAT'S LEFT OF THE TIGER TANK BOTTLES UP THE GERMANS' ONLY ROAD IN FROM THE SOUTHWEST.
IT'S A BIG WIN, IN WHAT SHOULD BE AN "IMPOSSIBLE" MISSION--TWO MEN HOLDING A BRIDGE FROM AN ARMY OF KRAUTS.
BUT THEN AGAIN...
THESE ARE THE KINDS OF MISSIONS WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE BUILT FOR.

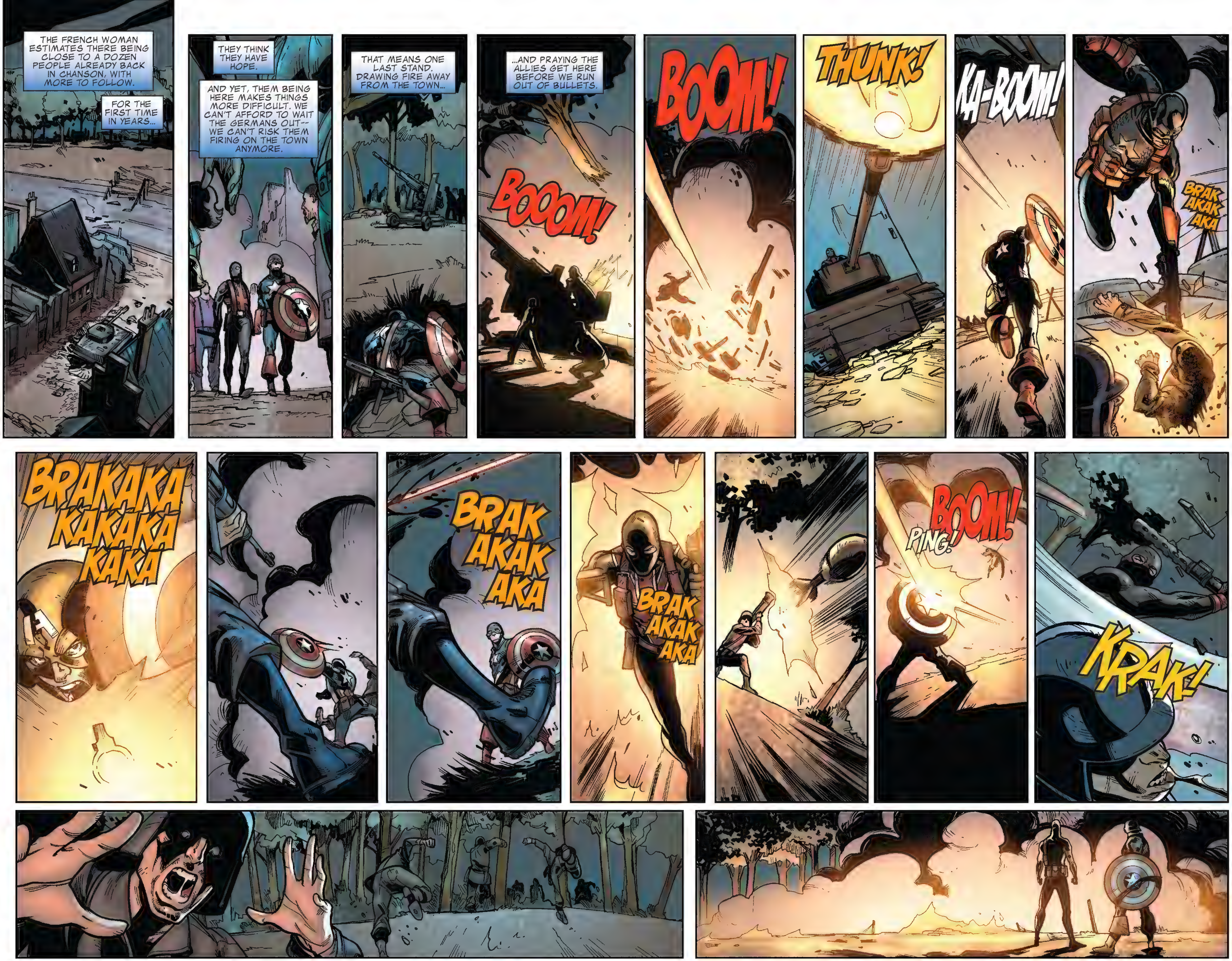

THE NEXT TWO DAYS ARE QUIET. NO SIGN OF TROOP MOVEMENT AT ALL.
WE WONDER OUT LOUD IF THEY MIGHT BE FALLING BACK AS THE ALLIES MARCH CLOSER, MAYBE EVEN RETREATING BECAUSE "THE FLAGS" ARE HERE.
BUT WE'RE NOT THAT LUCKY.
TREE LINE. TWO HUNDRED YARDS.
SO IT'S BLOODY ARTILLERY THEN. GONNA TRY AN' DRIVE US OUT...
AND THAT'S WHEN THINGS GET INTERESTING.

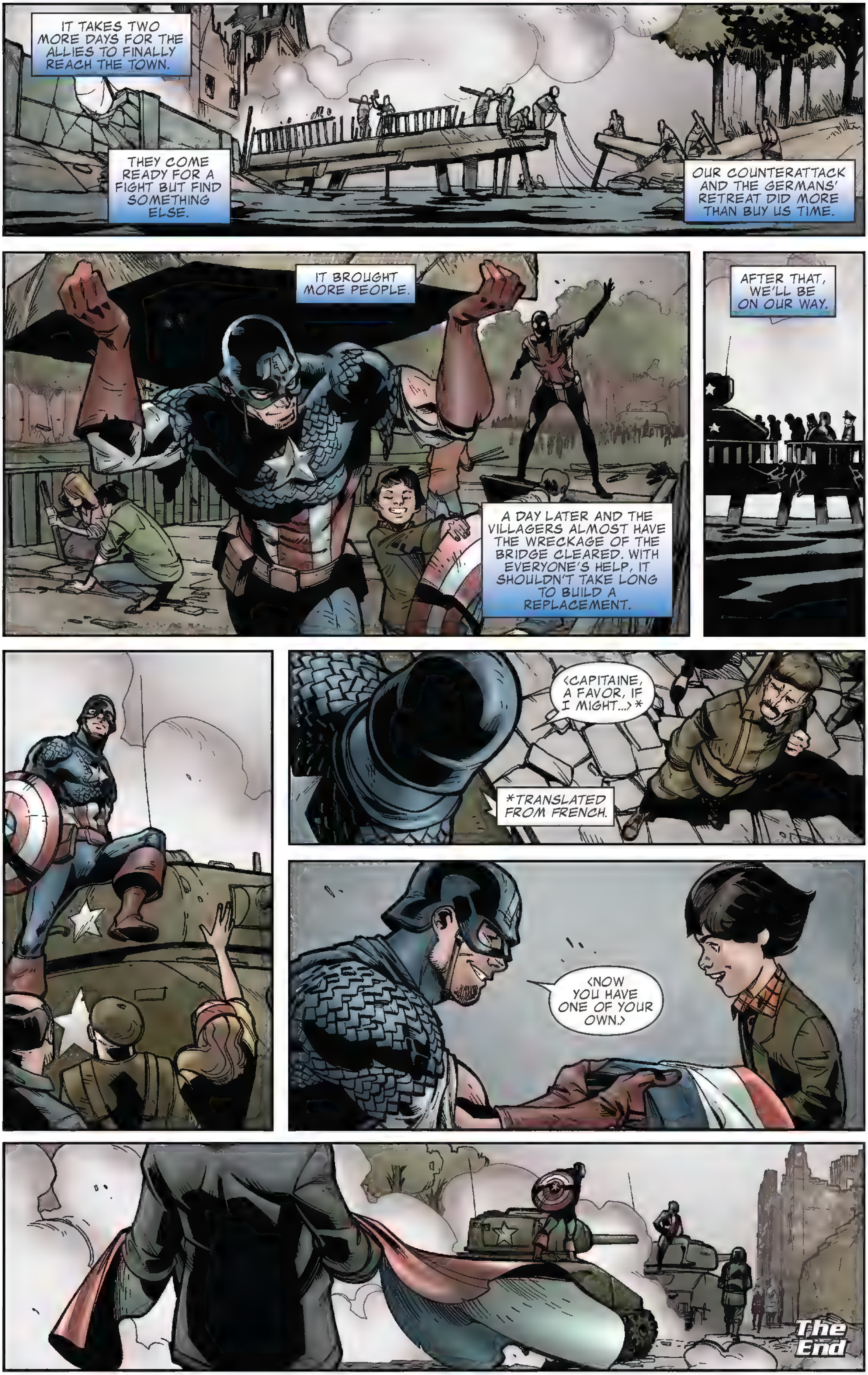

THE BRIDGE ISN'T THE FIRST THING THEY TAKE OUT, BUT IT'S A SHOCK THEY HIT IT AT ALL.
BOOOOM
IN DOING SO, THEY CUT OFF THEIR BEST WAY TO THE BEACHHEAD.
BUT ALSO, OUR WAY OUT.
ALL OF A SUDDEN, WE'RE NOT *HOLDING* A TOWN...WE'RE HOLED UP *IN* ONE.
WE'RE FORCED TO MOVE CONSTANTLY AS THE GERMANS CONTINUE THEIR ARTILLERY CAMPAIGN.
KRAOOOMMM
THREE DAYS LATER AND THERE'S NO SIGNS OF STOPPING.
JUST CONSTANT FIRING.
BOOOM
WE TAKE TURNS ON WATCH. BUT AS THE DAYS BLEND TOGETHER, SLEEP BECOMES HARDER AND HARDER TO GET.


YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY'RE DOING?
YES.
JUST THINK WHAT IT WOULD MEAN IF THEY MANAGED TO KILL US HERE...
A LOT MORE THAN HOLDING A BRIDGE.
A RATHER BIG TARGET NOW, ISN'T IT?


OUR K-RATIONS RUN OUT THE NEXT DAY.
WITH NO PLACE FOR US TO RETREAT, A FINAL GROUND ASSAULT CAN'T BE FAR BEHIND.
AT THIS POINT, ALL WE CAN DO IS HOPE BACKUP GETS HERE FIRST.
CREEEEEAAAAK
JACK...
THUD
THUD THUD THUD THUD
<DON'T SHOOT!>*
*TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH.


THE WOMAN AND HER SON SNUCK IN TO BRING US FOOD AND WATER...
IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT IT'LL BE ENOUGH TO KEEP US GOING FOR A FEW MORE DAYS.
THE BOY KEEPS POINTING AT MY CHEST, BUT I DON'T PICK UP ON IT RIGHT AWAY.
IT'S THE FIRST FLAG HE'S SEEN THAT DOESN'T HAVE A SWASTIKA ON IT.
THE WOMAN TELLS US SHE'S NOT THE FIRST TO COME BACK--THAT GROUPS OF PEOPLE HAVE STARTED RETURNING.
THIS PLACE IS UNDER SIEGE. WHY WOULD YOU RISK COMING BACK NOW?
BECAUSE YOU ARE HERE. AND IF YOU ARE HERE, THEN WE HAVE WON, YES?


THE FRENCH WOMAN ESTIMATES THERE BEING CLOSE TO A DOZEN PEOPLE ALREADY BACK IN CHANSON, WITH MORE TO FOLLOW.
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS...
THEY THINK THEY HAVE HOPE.
AND YET, THEM BEING HERE MAKES THINGS MORE DIFFICULT. WE CAN'T AFFORD TO WAIT THE GERMANS OUT-- WE CAN'T RISK THEM FIRING ON THE TOWN ANYMORE.
THAT MEANS ONE LAST STAND. DRAWING FIRE AWAY FROM THE TOWN...
...AND PRAYING THE ALLIES GET HERE BEFORE WE RUN OUT OF BULLETS.
BOOOM!
BOOM!
THUNK!
KA-BOOM!
BRAK AKAK AKA
BRAKAKA KAKAKA KAKA
BRAK AKAK AKA
BRAK AKAK AKA
PING!
BOOM!
KRAK!


IT TAKES TWO MORE DAYS FOR THE ALLIES TO FINALLY REACH THE TOWN.
THEY COME READY FOR A FIGHT BUT FIND SOMETHING ELSE.
OUR COUNTERATTACK AND THE GERMANS' RETREAT DID MORE THAN BUY US TIME.
IT BROUGHT MORE PEOPLE.
A DAY LATER AND THE VILLAGERS ALMOST HAVE THE WRECKAGE OF THE BRIDGE CLEARED. WITH EVERYONE'S HELP, IT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG TO BUILD A REPLACEMENT.
AFTER THAT, WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY.
‹CAPITAINE, A FAVOR, IF I MIGHT...›*
*TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH.
‹NOW YOU HAVE ONE OF YOUR OWN.›
The End

CAPTAIN AMERICA

BRUBAKER
GUICE
SAMNEE
DEODATO

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CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

But Bucky has a dark and secret past as the Winter Soldier - an assassin trained, employed, and mentally manipulated by the KGB to stymie U.S. efforts in the Cold War. A past that has been exposed to the world. Caught up in a highly publicized trial, an incarcerated Bucky maintains his innocence while Sin, the mad daughter of the Red Skull, hatches a plot to dismantle Bucky's life, one victim at a time.

With Sin threatening to destroy the Statue of Liberty and the heroes Black Widow and Falcon with it, Bucky escapes from prison to save his friends. Averting disaster, but with Sin having escaped, Bucky grimly returns to the trial and reverses his plea to guilty. The judge, recognizing his service and sacrifice, commutes the sentence to time served.

The rejoicing is cut short, however, when the Russian ambassador arrives with extradition orders for the Winter Soldier's return to Russia - where Bucky has already been convicted in absentia of crimes against the state.

Now Bucky finds himself condemned to a brutal Russian gulag for the foreseeable future, with nothing but former enemies for company...who welcome Bucky by tossing him into a primitive arena to battle the giant man-bear Ursa Major...to the death.

GULAG part 2

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Exec. Producer
Alan Fine

Captain America created by Joe Simon and Jack Kirby

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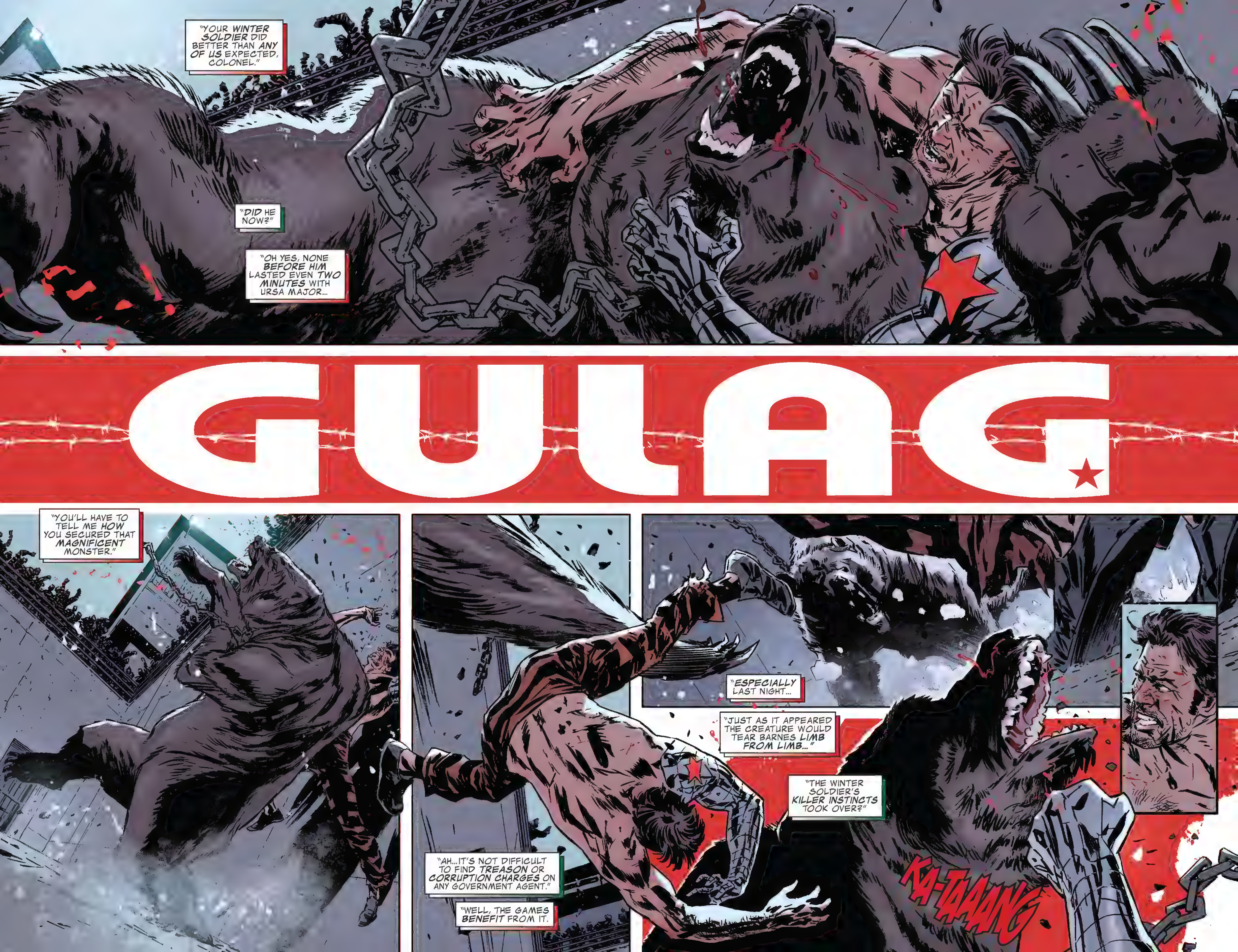
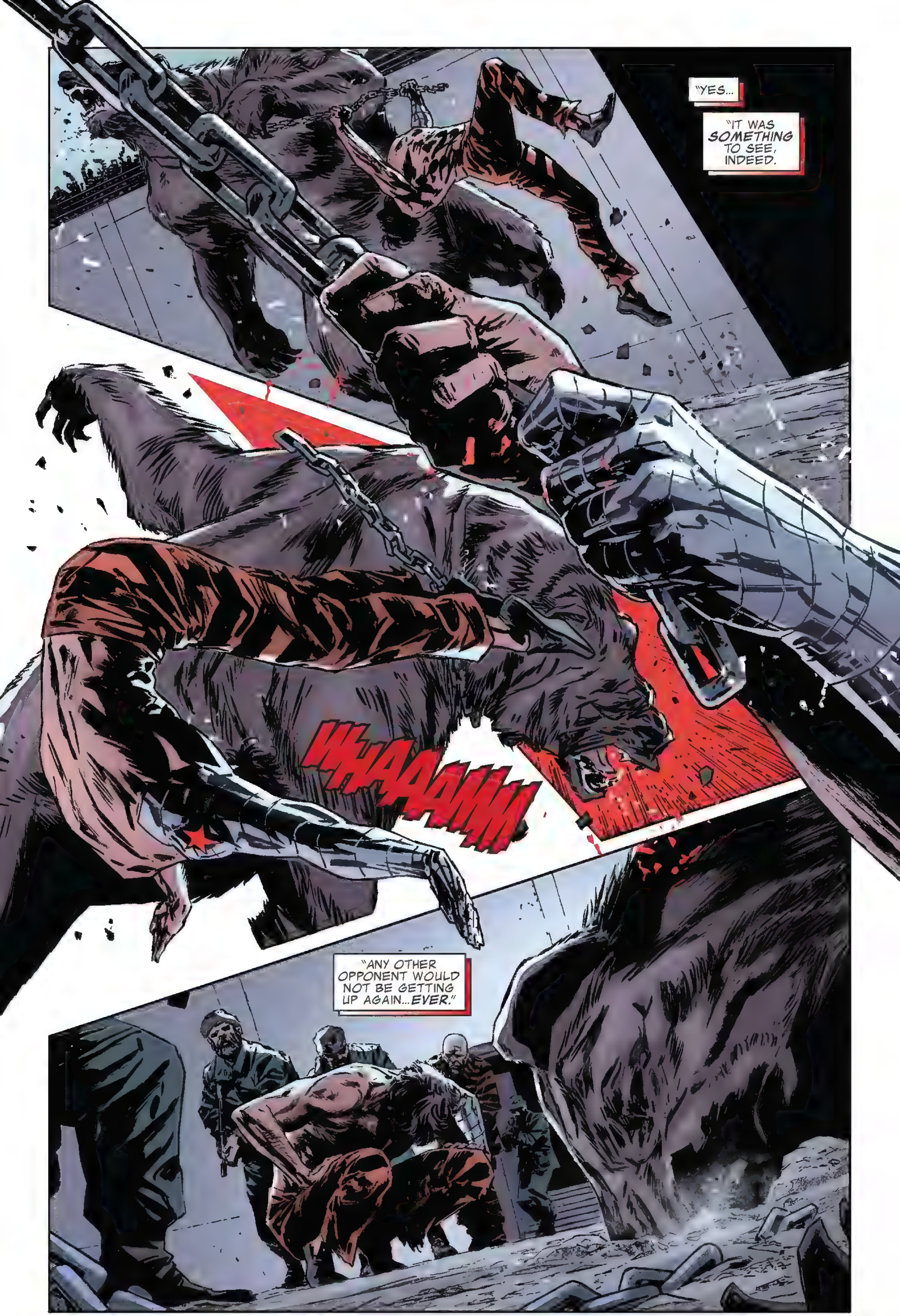
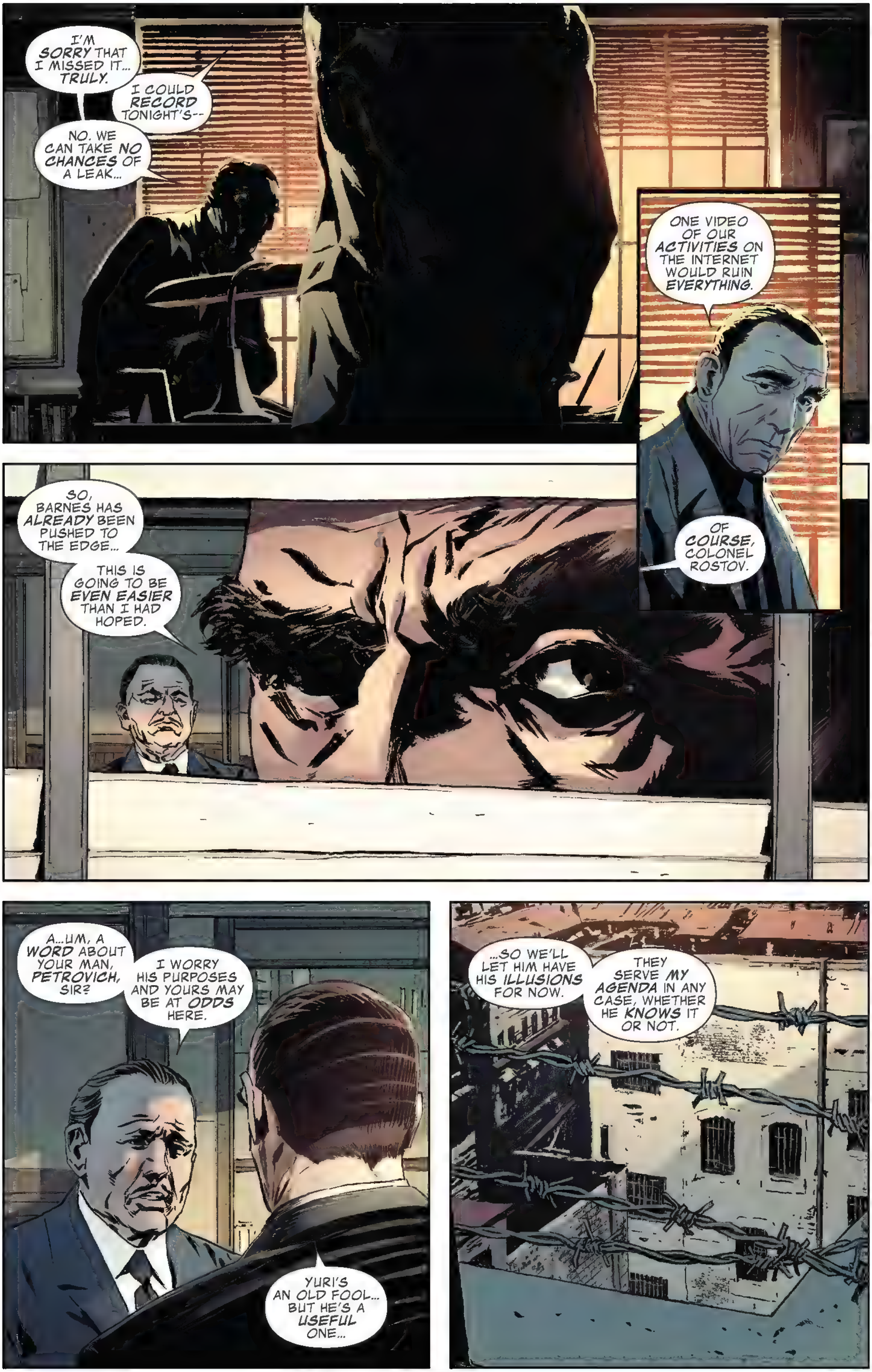
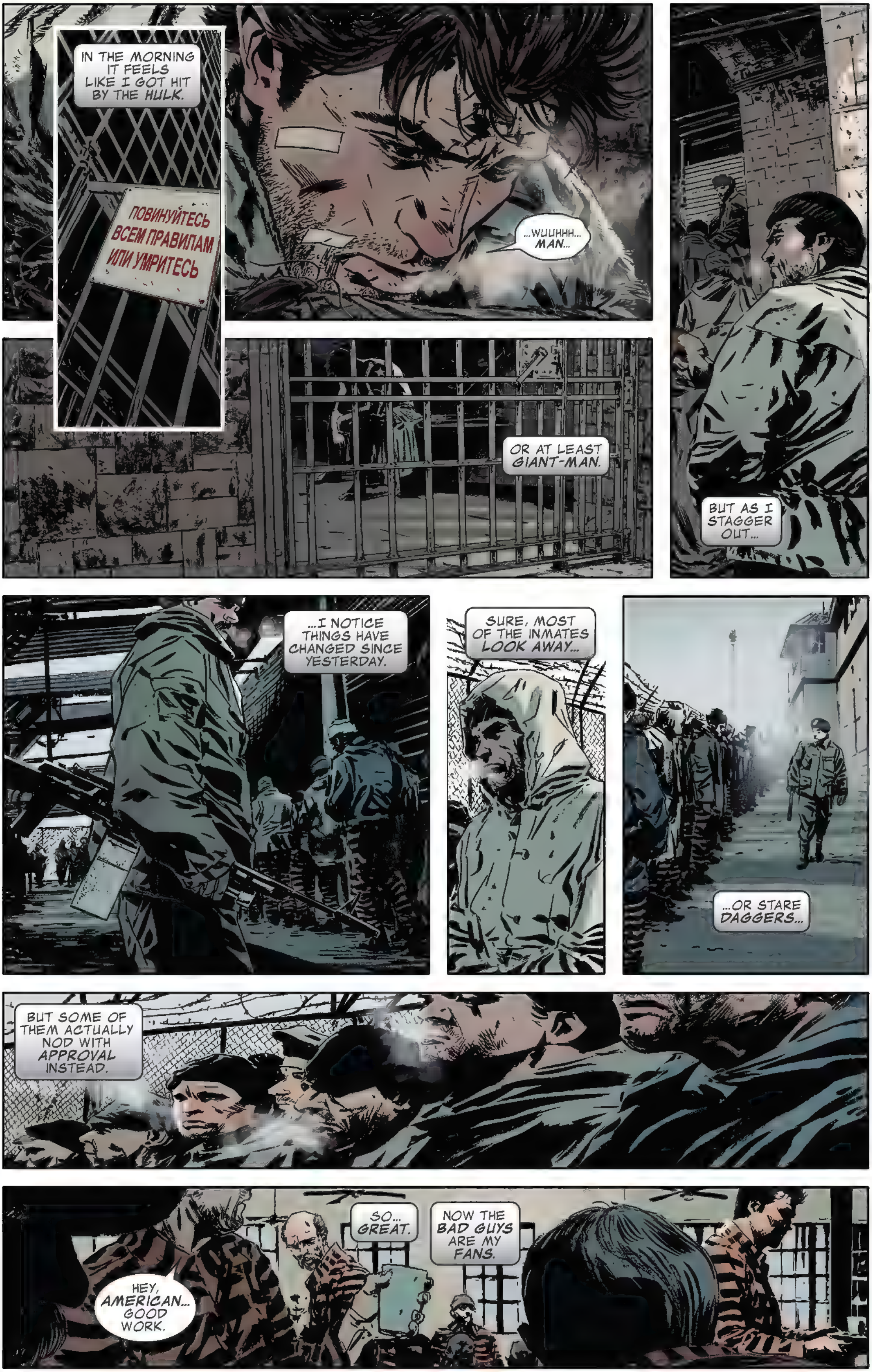
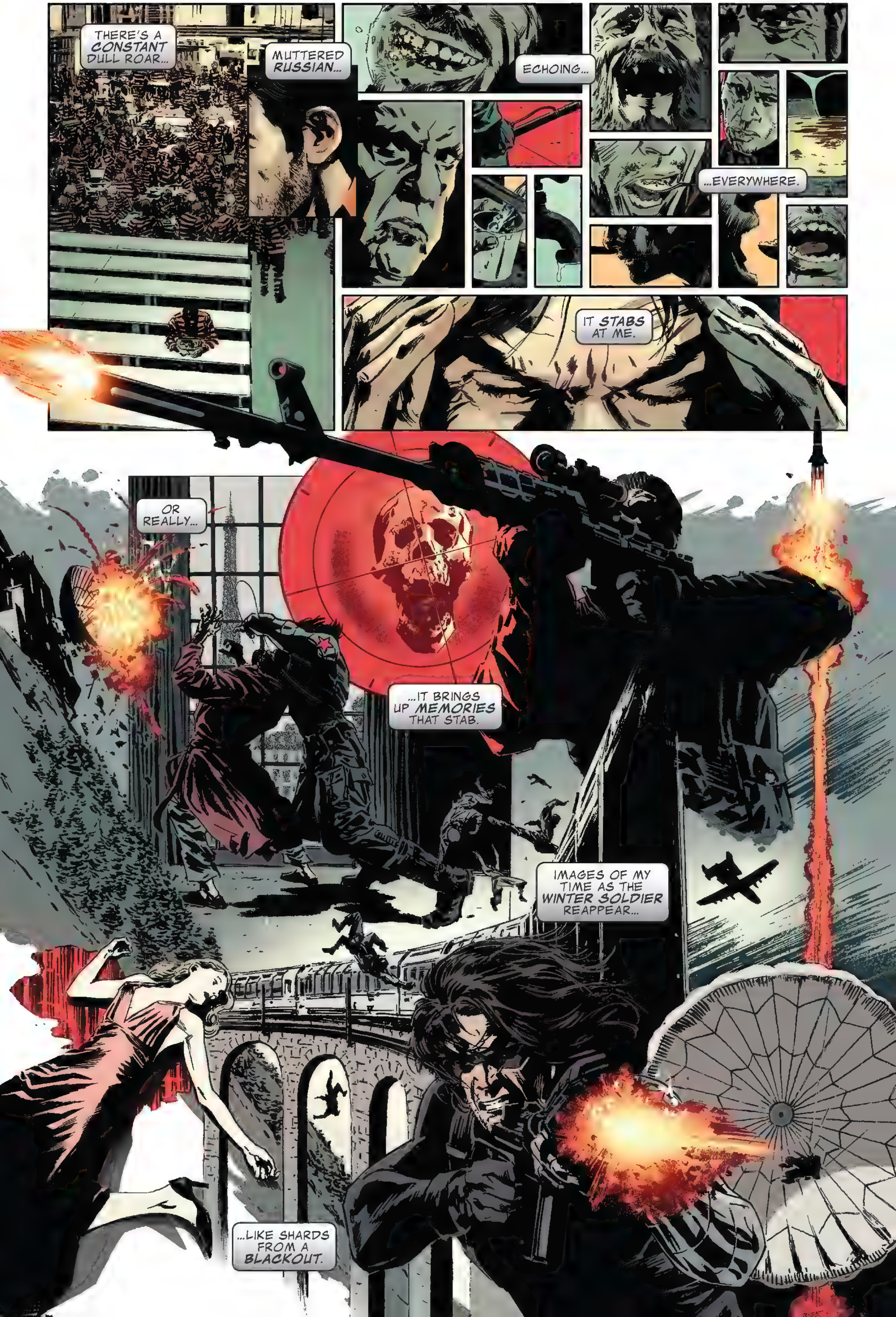
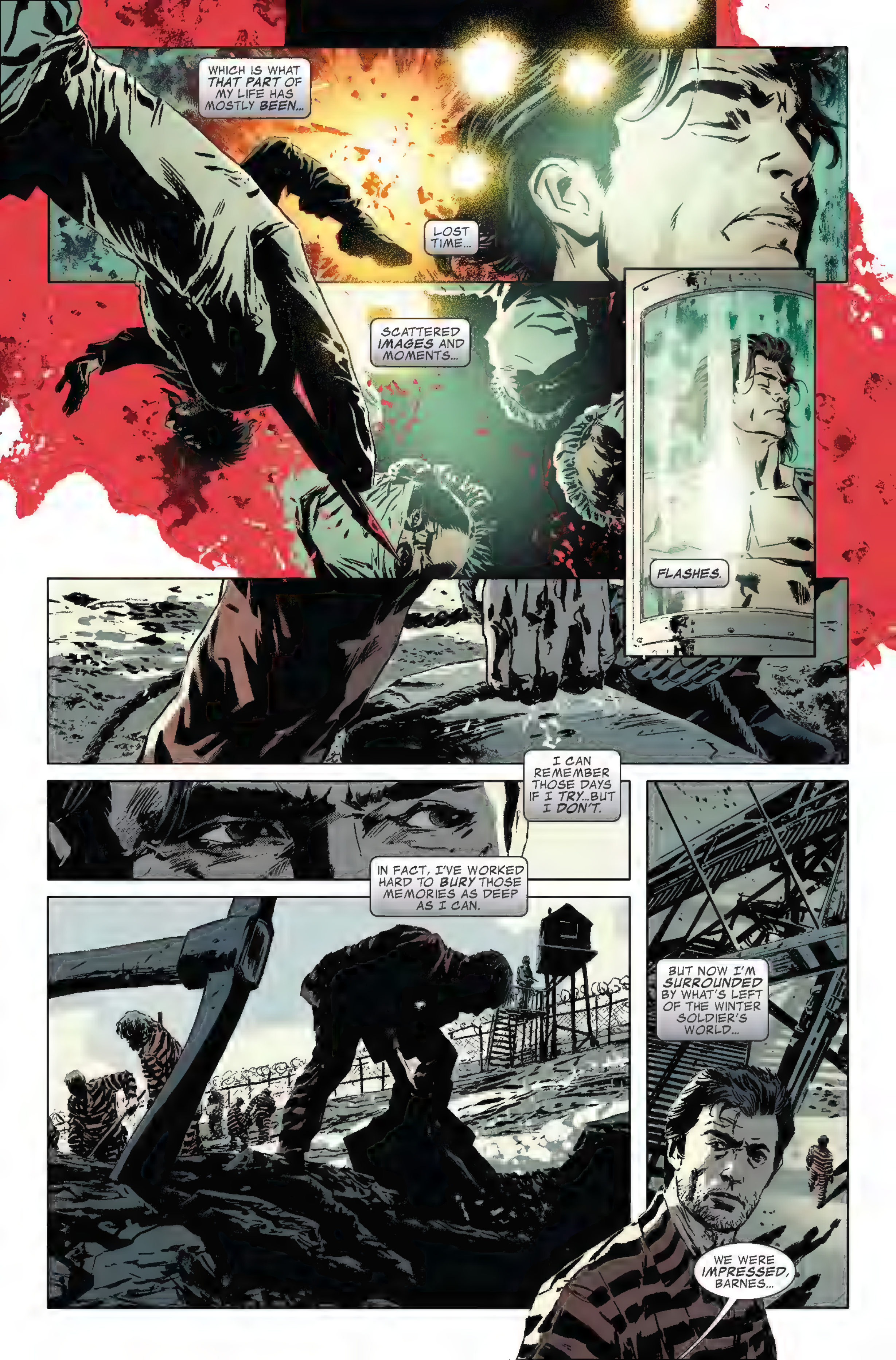

"YOUR WINTER SOLDIER DID BETTER THAN ANY OF US EXPECTED, COLONEL."
"DID HE NOW?"
"OH YES, NONE BEFORE HIM LASTED EVEN TWO MINUTES WITH URSA MAJOR...
GULAG
"YOU'LL HAVE TO TELL ME HOW YOU SECURED THAT MAGNIFICENT MONSTER."
"AH...IT'S NOT DIFFICULT TO FIND TREASON OR CORRUPTION CHARGES ON ANY GOVERNMENT AGENT."
"WELL, THE GAMES BENEFIT FROM IT.
"ESPECIALLY LAST NIGHT...
"JUST AS IT APPEARED THE CREATURE WOULD TEAR BARNES LIMB FROM LIMB..."
"THE WINTER SOLDIER'S KILLER INSTINCTS TOOK OVER?"
KA-TAAANG

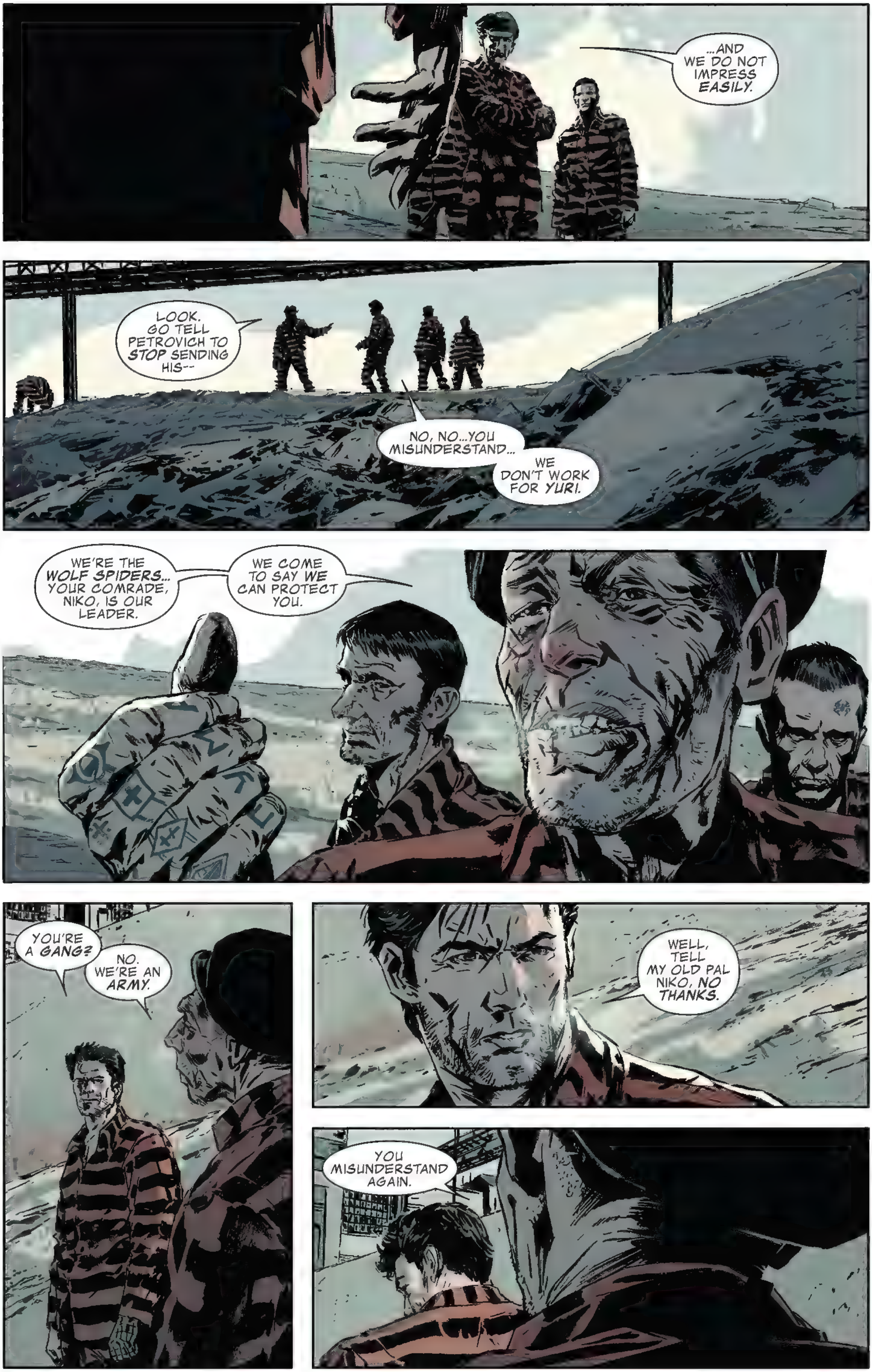

"YES...
"IT WAS SOMETHING TO SEE, INDEED.
WHAAAMM
"ANY OTHER OPPONENT WOULD NOT BE GETTING UP AGAIN...EVER."

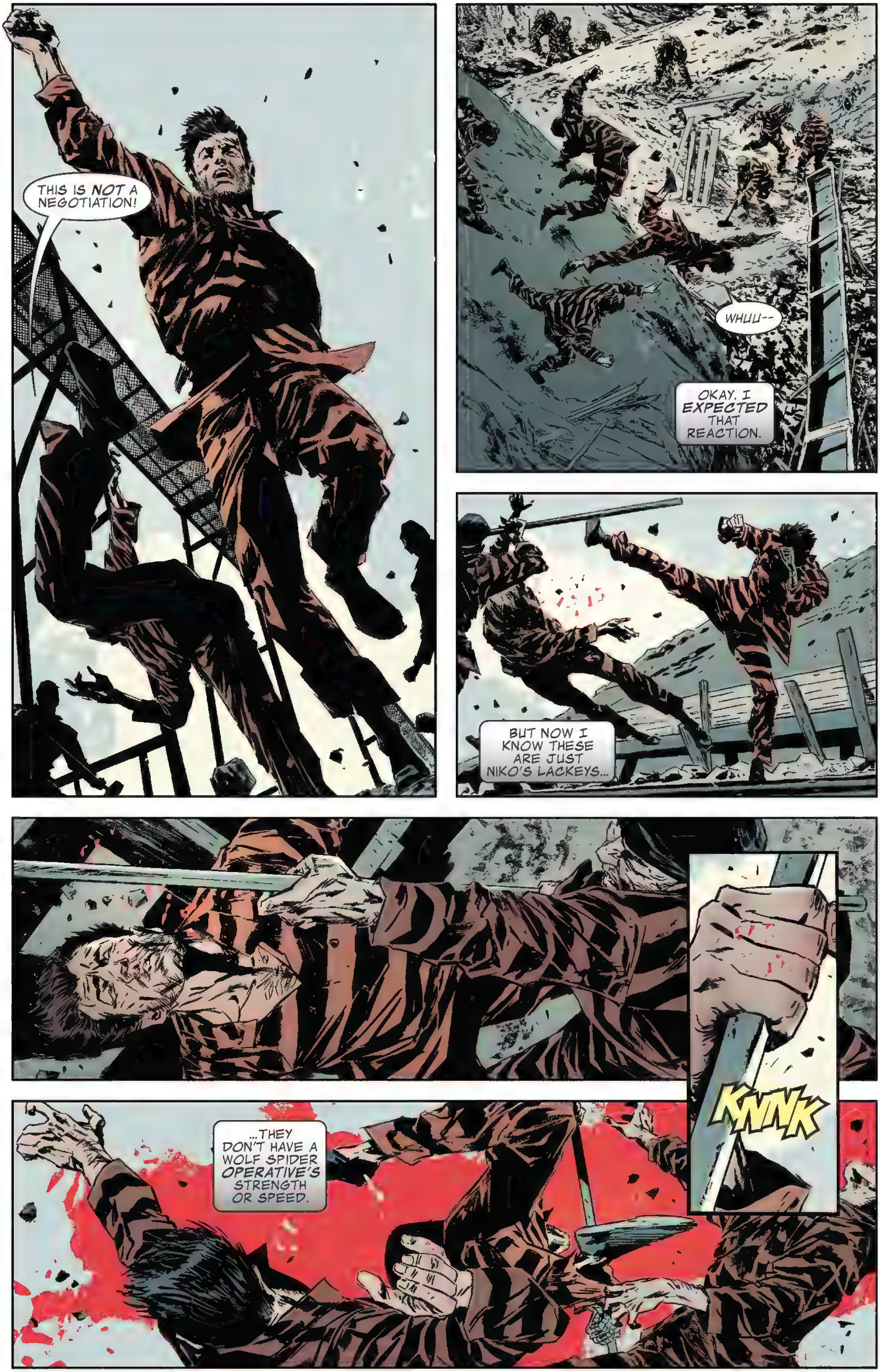

I'M SORRY THAT I MISSED IT... TRULY.
I COULD RECORD TONIGHT'S--
NO. WE CAN TAKE NO CHANCES OF A LEAK...
ONE VIDEO OF OUR ACTIVITIES ON THE INTERNET WOULD RUIN EVERYTHING.
OF COURSE, COLONEL ROSTOV.
SO, BARNES HAS ALREADY BEEN PUSHED TO THE EDGE...
THIS IS GOING TO BE EVEN EASIER THAN I HAD HOPED.
A...UM, A WORD ABOUT YOUR MAN, PETROVICH, SIR?
I WORRY HIS PURPOSES AND YOURS MAY BE AT ODDS HERE.
YURI'S AN OLD FOOL... BUT HE'S A USEFUL ONE...
...SO WE'LL LET HIM HAVE HIS ILLUSIONS FOR NOW.
THEY SERVE MY AGENDA IN ANY CASE, WHETHER HE KNOWS IT OR NOT.

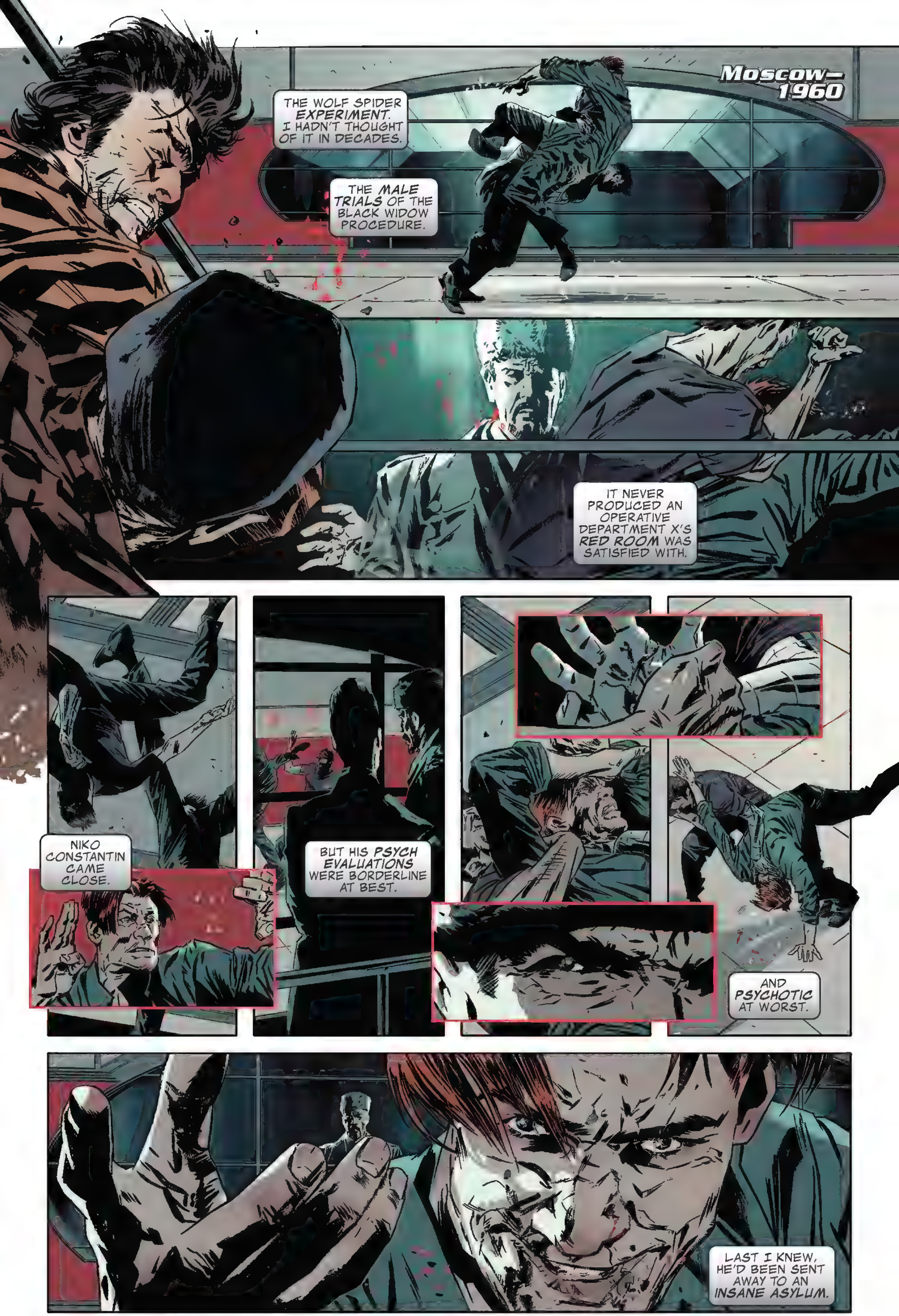

IN THE MORNING IT FEELS LIKE I GOT HIT BY THE HULK.
ПОВИНУЙТЕСЬ ВСЕМ ПРАВИЛАМ ИЛИ УМРИТЕСЬ
...WUUHHH... MAN...
OR AT LEAST GIANT-MAN.
BUT AS I STAGGER OUT...
...I NOTICE THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE YESTERDAY.
SURE, MOST OF THE INMATES LOOK AWAY...
...OR STARE DAGGERS...
BUT SOME OF THEM ACTUALLY NOD WITH APPROVAL INSTEAD.
HEY, AMERICAN... GOOD WORK.
SO... GREAT.
NOW THE BAD GUYS ARE MY FANS.

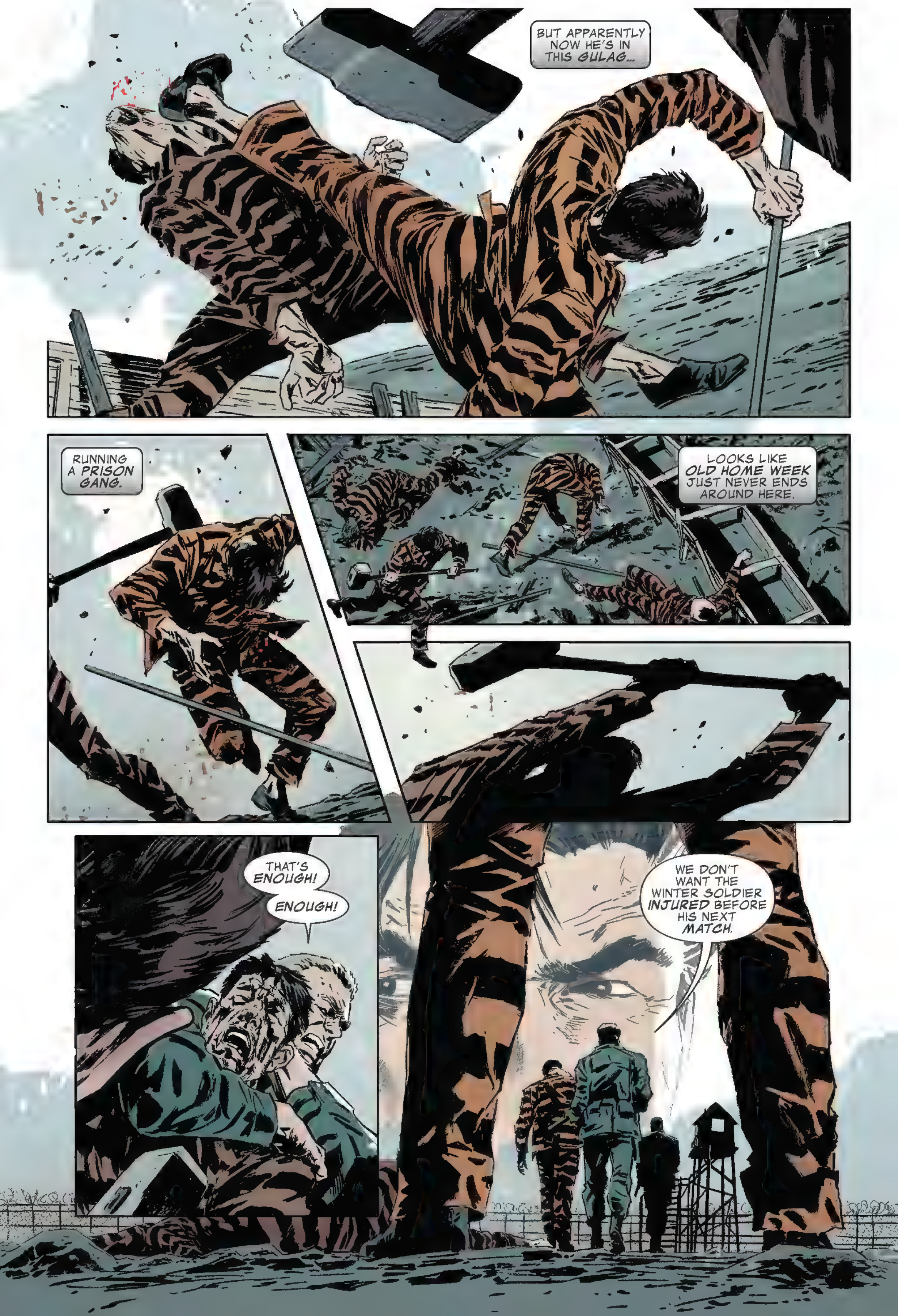

THERE'S A CONSTANT DULL ROAR...
MUTTERED RUSSIAN...
ECHOING...
...EVERYWHERE.
IT STABS AT ME.
OR REALLY...
...IT BRINGS UP MEMORIES THAT STAB.
IMAGES OF MY TIME AS THE WINTER SOLDIER REAPPEAR...
...LIKE SHARDS FROM A BLACKOUT.

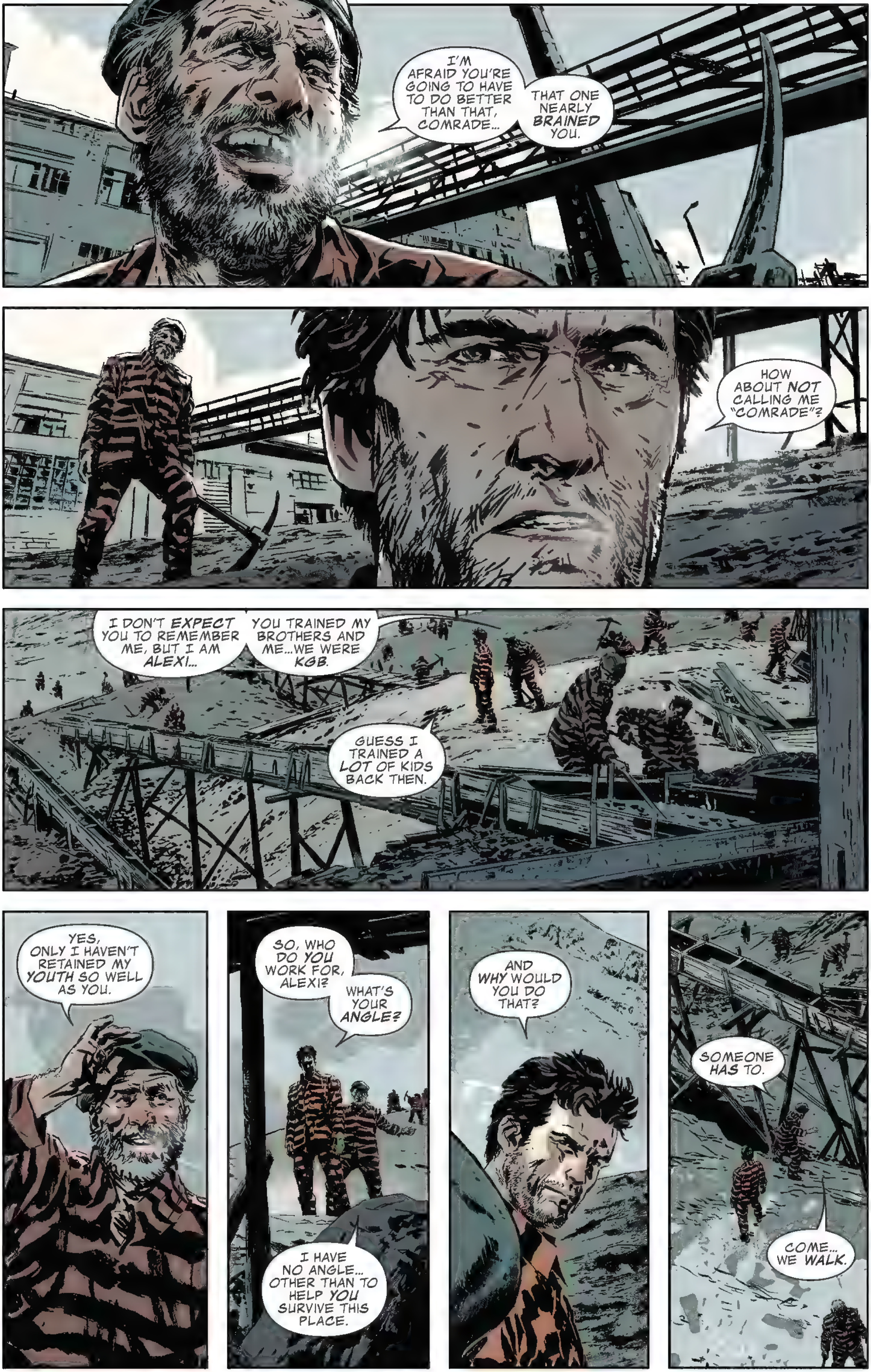

WHICH IS WHAT THAT PART OF MY LIFE HAS MOSTLY BEEN...
LOST TIME...
SCATTERED IMAGES AND MOMENTS...
FLASHES.
I CAN REMEMBER THOSE DAYS IF I TRY...BUT I DON'T.
IN FACT, I'VE WORKED HARD TO BURY THOSE MEMORIES AS DEEP AS I CAN.
BUT NOW I'M SURROUNDED BY WHAT'S LEFT OF THE WINTER SOLDIER'S WORLD...
WE WERE IMPRESSED, BARNES...

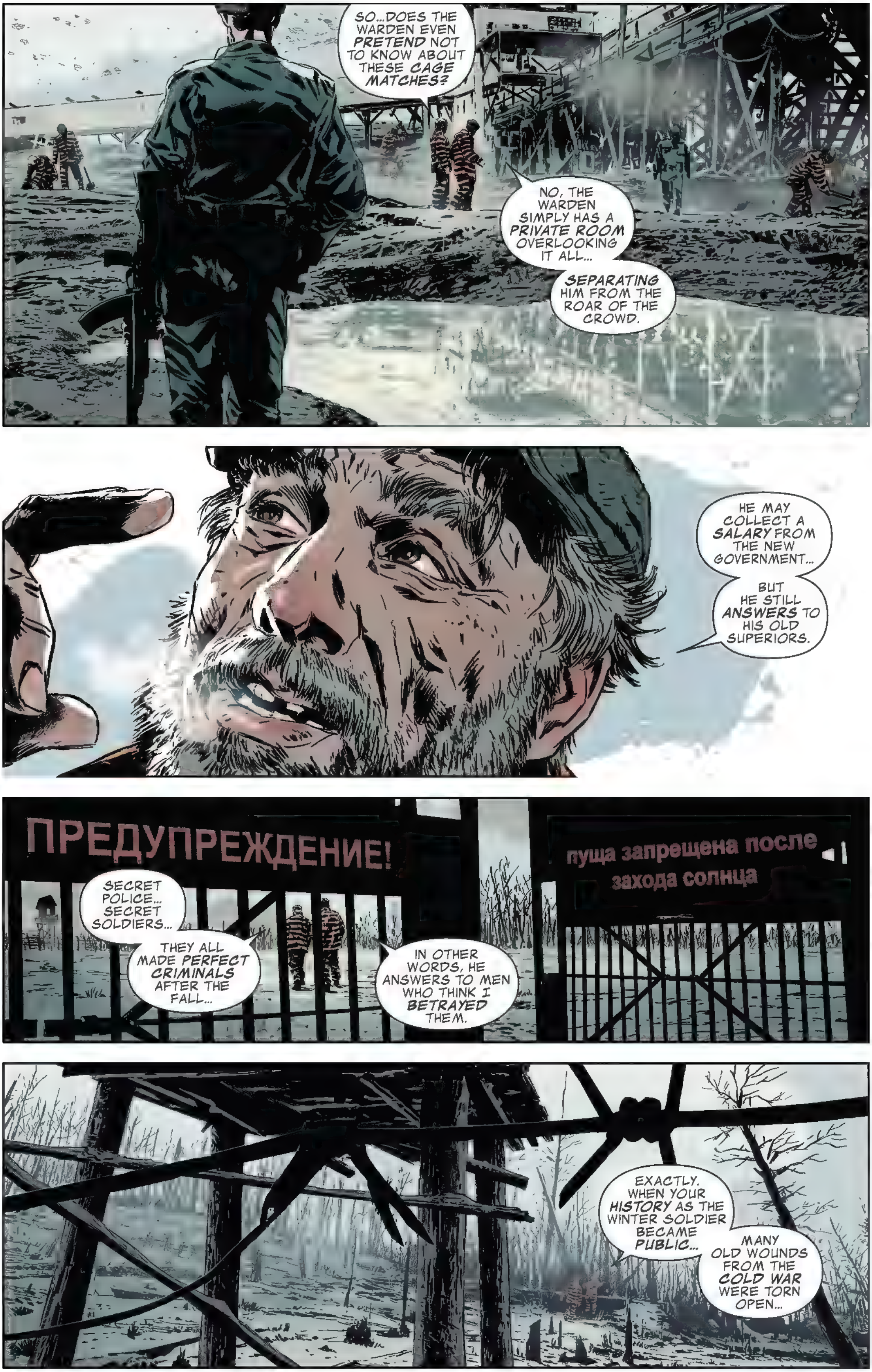

...AND WE DO NOT IMPRESS *EASILY.*
LOOK. GO TELL PETROVICH TO *STOP* SENDING HIS--
NO, NO...YOU MISUNDERSTAND...
WE DON'T WORK FOR *YURI.*
WE'RE THE *WOLF SPIDERS...* YOUR COMRADE, NIKO, IS OUR LEADER.
WE COME TO SAY *WE* CAN PROTECT YOU.
YOU'RE A *GANG?*
NO. WE'RE AN *ARMY.*
WELL, TELL MY OLD PAL NIKO, *NO THANKS.*
YOU MISUNDERSTAND AGAIN.

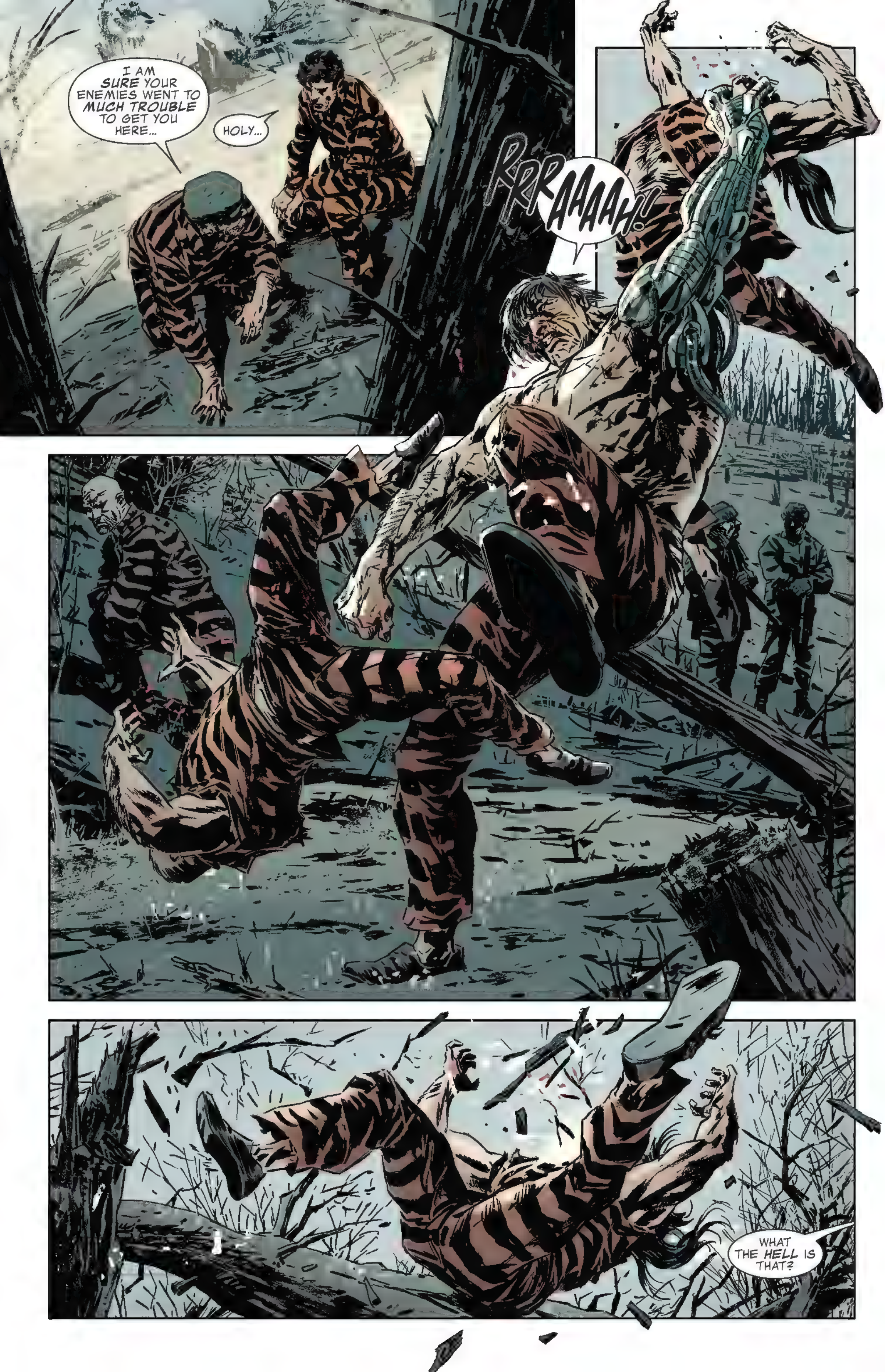

THIS IS *NOT* A NEGOTIATION!
WHUU--
OKAY. I *EXPECTED* THAT REACTION.
BUT NOW I KNOW THESE ARE JUST NIKO'S LACKEYS...
KNNK
...THEY DON'T HAVE A WOLF SPIDER *OPERATIVE'S* STRENGTH OR SPEED.

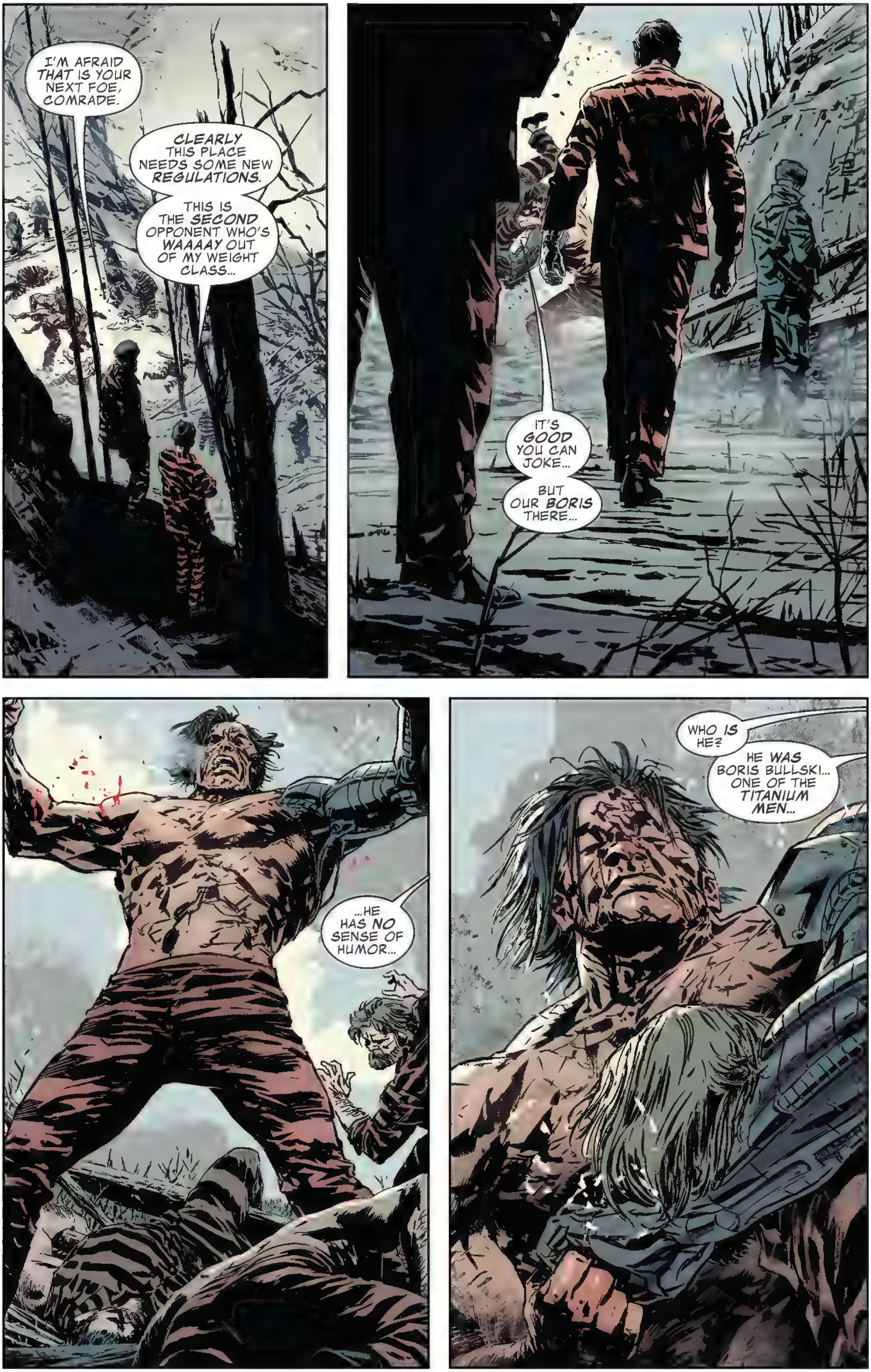

Moscow—1960
THE WOLF SPIDER EXPERIMENT. I HADN'T THOUGHT OF IT IN DECADES.
THE MALE TRIALS OF THE BLACK WIDOW PROCEDURE.
IT NEVER PRODUCED AN OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT X'S RED ROOM WAS SATISFIED WITH.
NIKO CONSTANTIN CAME CLOSE.
BUT HIS PSYCH EVALUATIONS WERE BORDERLINE AT BEST.
AND PSYCHOTIC AT WORST.
LAST I KNEW, HE'D BEEN SENT AWAY TO AN INSANE ASYLUM.

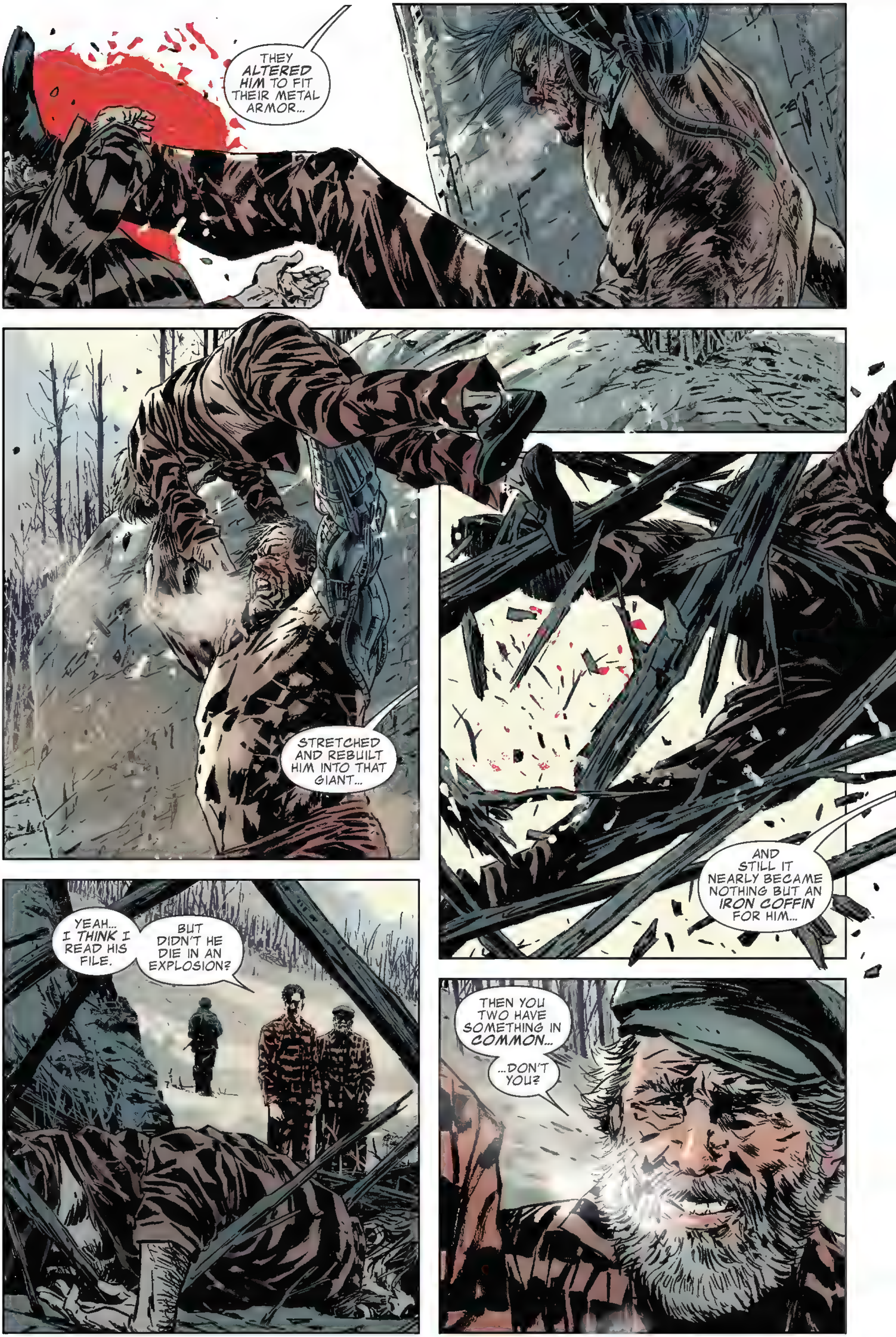

BUT APPARENTLY NOW HE'S IN THIS *GULAG*...
RUNNING A *PRISON GANG.*
LOOKS LIKE *OLD HOME WEEK* JUST NEVER ENDS AROUND HERE.
THAT'S *ENOUGH!*
ENOUGH!
WE DON'T WANT THE WINTER SOLDIER *INJURED* BEFORE HIS NEXT *MATCH.*

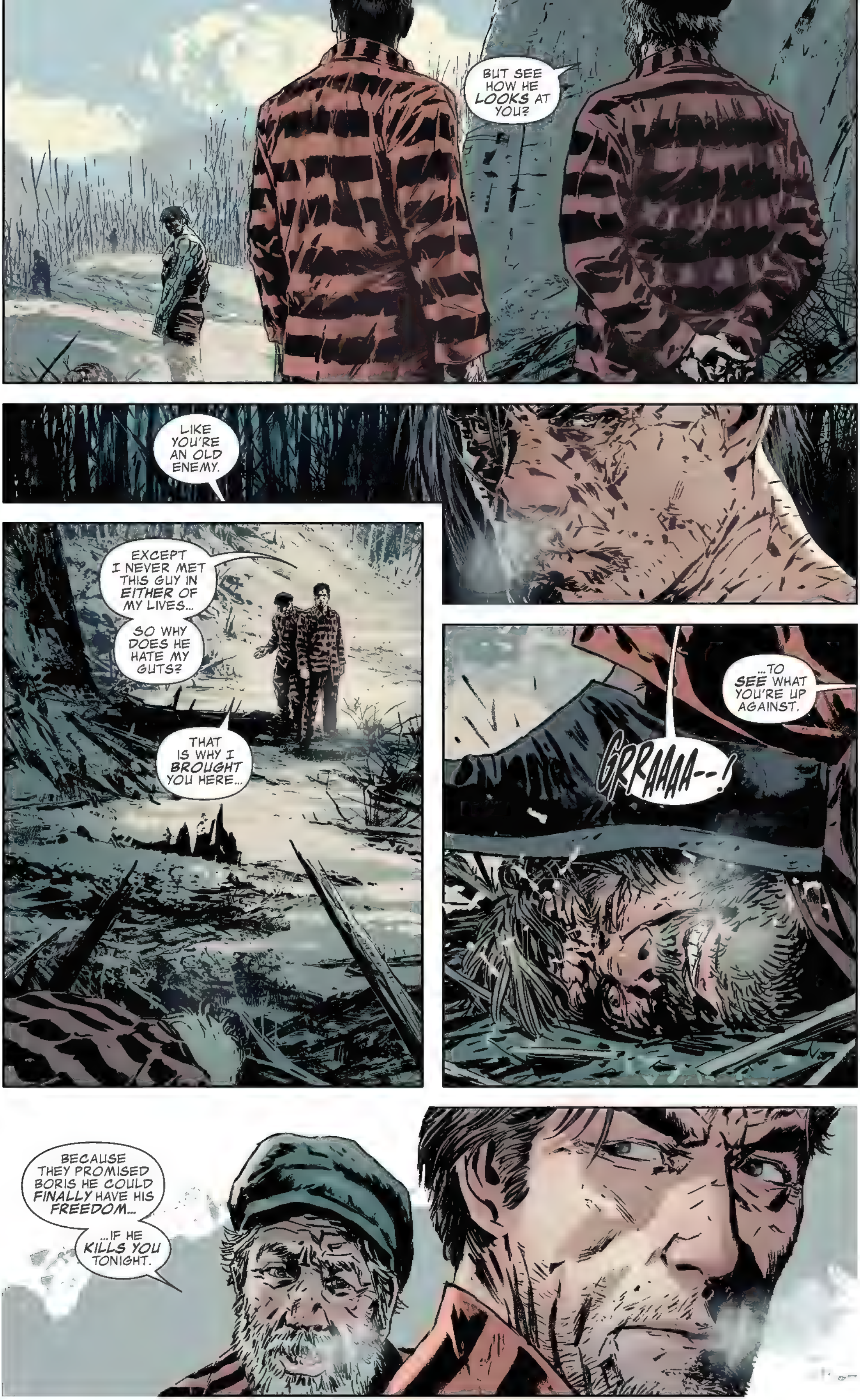

I'M AFRAID YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT, COMRADE...
THAT ONE NEARLY *BRAINED* YOU.
HOW ABOUT *NOT* CALLING ME "COMRADE"?
I DON'T *EXPECT* YOU TO REMEMBER ME, BUT I AM *ALEXI*...
YOU TRAINED MY BROTHERS AND ME...WE WERE *KGB*.
GUESS I TRAINED A *LOT* OF KIDS BACK THEN.
YES, ONLY I HAVEN'T RETAINED MY *YOUTH* SO WELL AS YOU.
SO, WHO DO *YOU* WORK FOR, ALEXI?
WHAT'S YOUR *ANGLE?*
I HAVE NO ANGLE... OTHER THAN TO HELP *YOU* SURVIVE THIS PLACE.
AND *WHY* WOULD YOU DO THAT?
SOMEONE *HAS* TO.
COME... WE *WALK*.

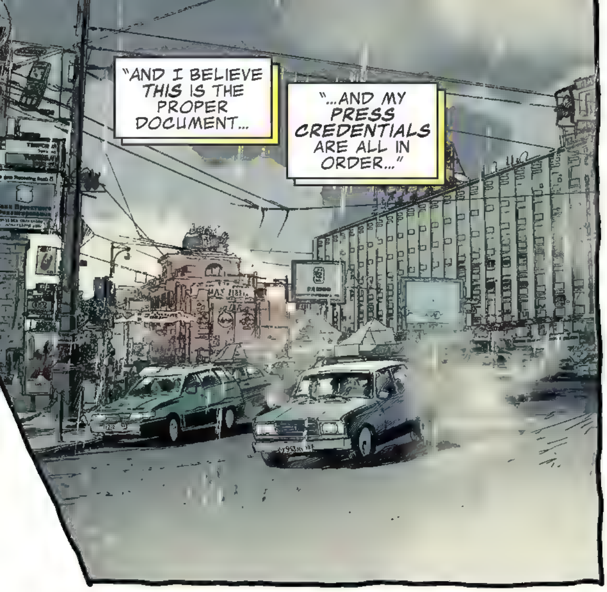

SO...DOES THE WARDEN EVEN *PRETEND* NOT TO KNOW ABOUT THESE *CAGE MATCHES?*
NO, THE WARDEN SIMPLY HAS A *PRIVATE ROOM* OVERLOOKING IT ALL...
SEPARATING HIM FROM THE ROAR OF THE CROWD.
HE MAY COLLECT A *SALARY* FROM THE NEW GOVERNMENT...
BUT HE STILL *ANSWERS* TO HIS OLD SUPERIORS.
ПРЕДУПРЕЖДЕНИЕ!
пуща запрещена после захода солнца
SECRET POLICE... SECRET SOLDIERS...
THEY ALL MADE *PERFECT CRIMINALS* AFTER THE FALL...
IN OTHER WORDS, HE ANSWERS TO MEN WHO THINK I *BETRAYED* THEM.
EXACTLY. WHEN YOUR *HISTORY* AS THE WINTER SOLDIER BECAME *PUBLIC*...
MANY OLD WOUNDS FROM THE *COLD WAR* WERE TORN OPEN...

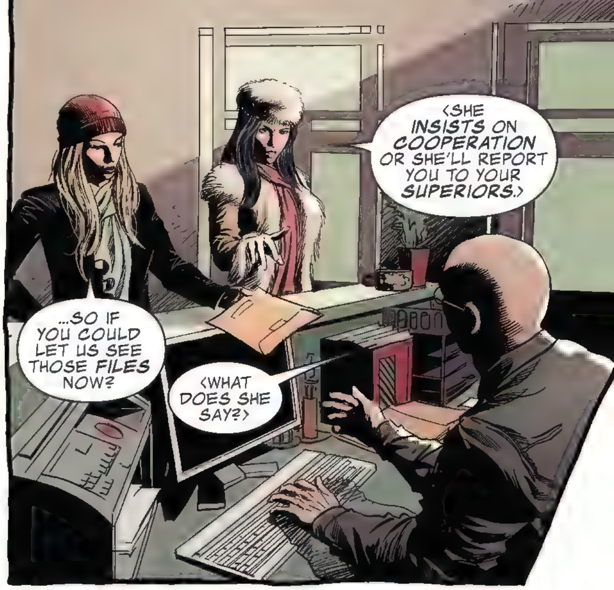

I AM *SURE* YOUR ENEMIES WENT TO *MUCH TROUBLE* TO GET YOU HERE...
HOLY...
RRRAAAAAH!!
WHAT THE *HELL* IS THAT?


I'M AFRAID *THAT* IS YOUR NEXT FOE, COMRADE.
CLEARLY THIS PLACE NEEDS SOME NEW *REGULATIONS.*
THIS IS THE *SECOND* OPPONENT WHO'S *WAAAAY* OUT OF MY WEIGHT CLASS...
IT'S *GOOD* YOU CAN JOKE...
BUT OUR *BORIS* THERE...
...HE HAS *NO* SENSE OF HUMOR...
WHO *IS* HE?
HE *WAS* BORIS BULLSKI... ONE OF THE *TITANIUM MEN*...

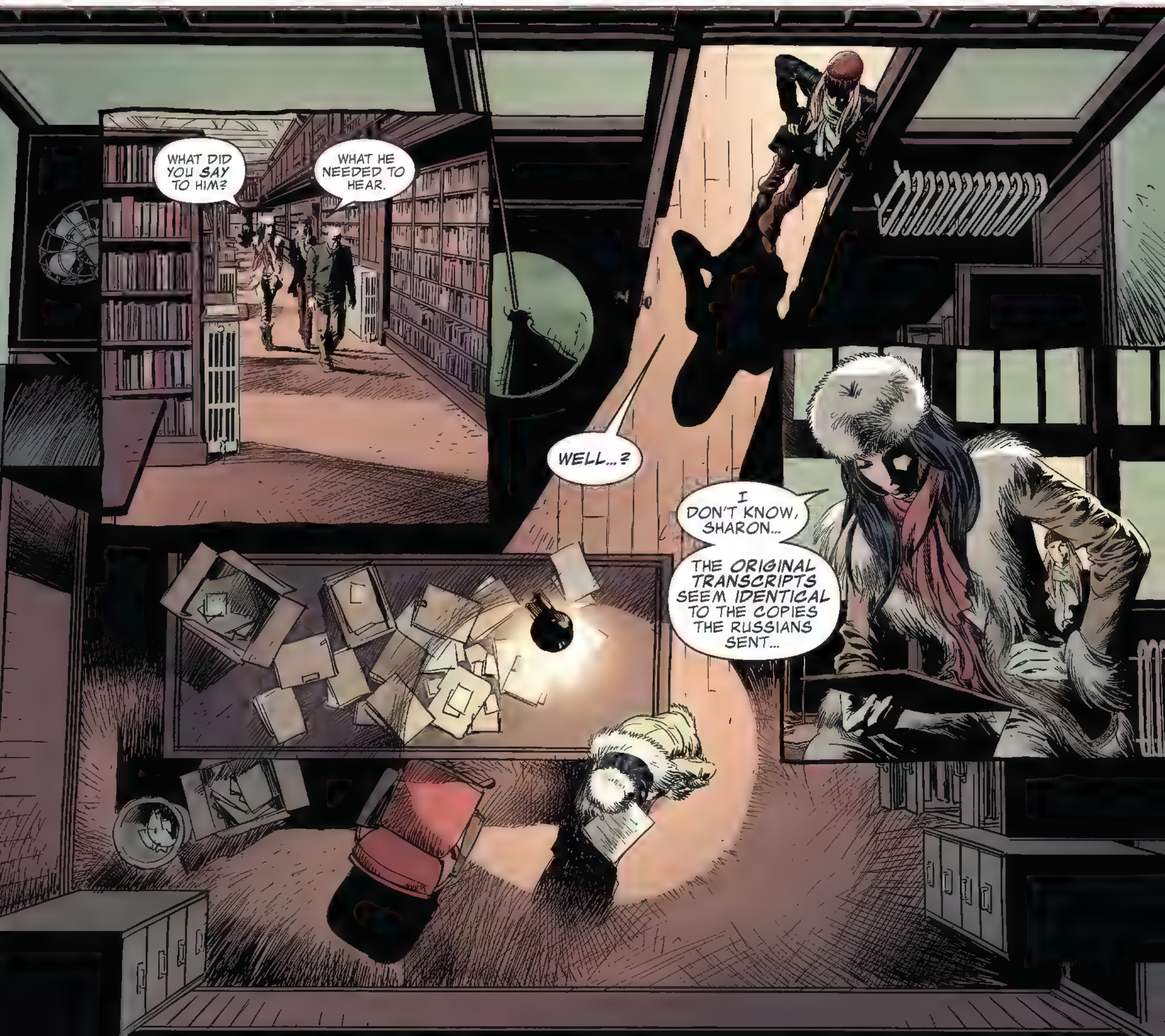

THEY ALTERED HIM TO FIT THEIR METAL ARMOR...
STRETCHED AND REBUILT HIM INTO THAT GIANT...
AND STILL IT NEARLY BECAME NOTHING BUT AN IRON COFFIN FOR HIM...
YEAH... I THINK I READ HIS FILE.
BUT DIDN'T HE DIE IN AN EXPLOSION?
THEN YOU TWO HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON...
...DON'T YOU?

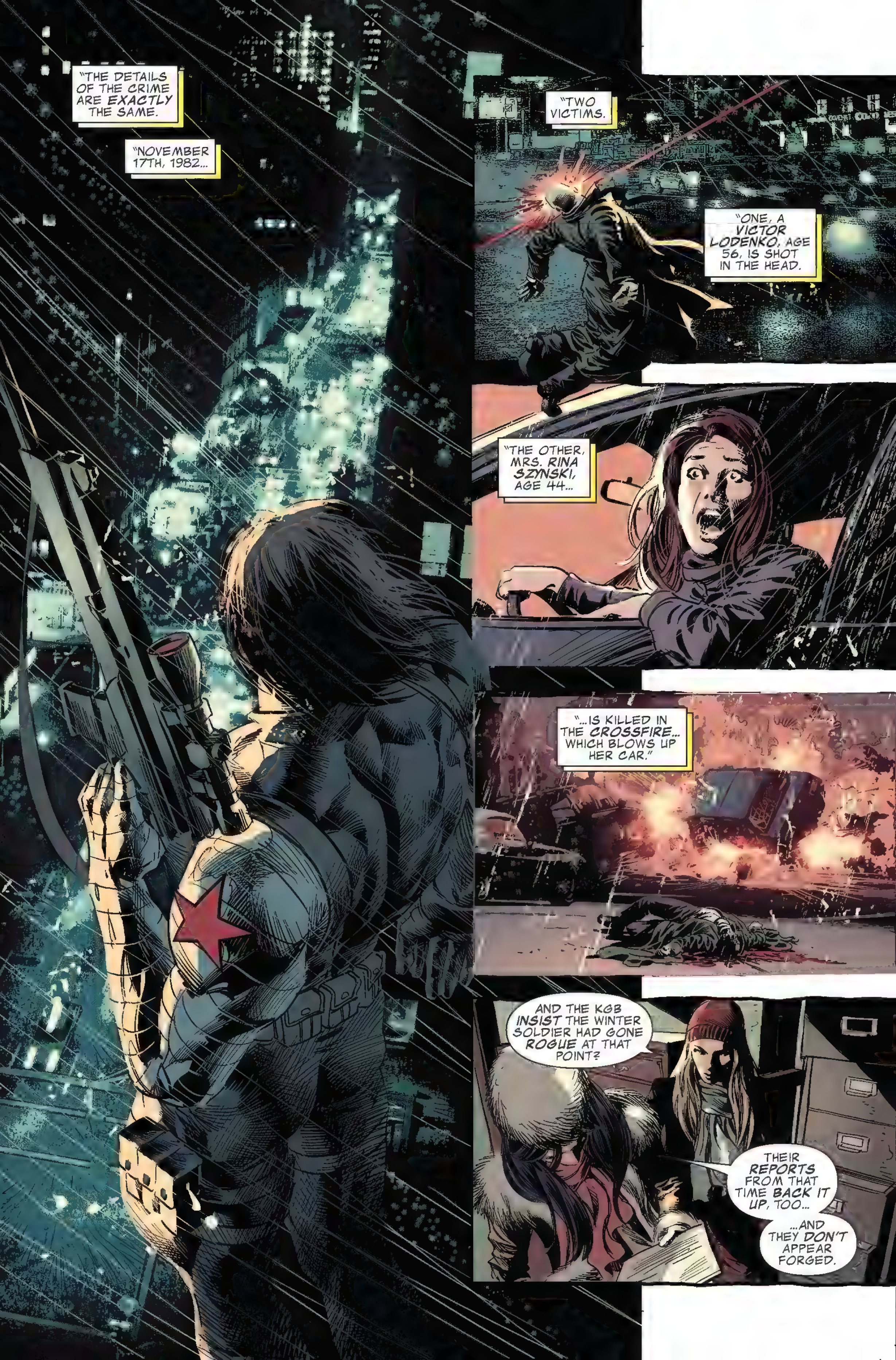

BUT SEE HOW HE LOOKS AT YOU?
LIKE YOU'RE AN OLD ENEMY.
EXCEPT I NEVER MET THIS GUY IN EITHER OF MY LIVES...
SO WHY DOES HE HATE MY GUTS?
THAT IS WHY I BROUGHT YOU HERE...
...TO SEE WHAT YOU'RE UP AGAINST.
GRRAAAA--!
BECAUSE THEY PROMISED BORIS HE COULD FINALLY HAVE HIS FREEDOM...
...IF HE KILLS YOU TONIGHT.

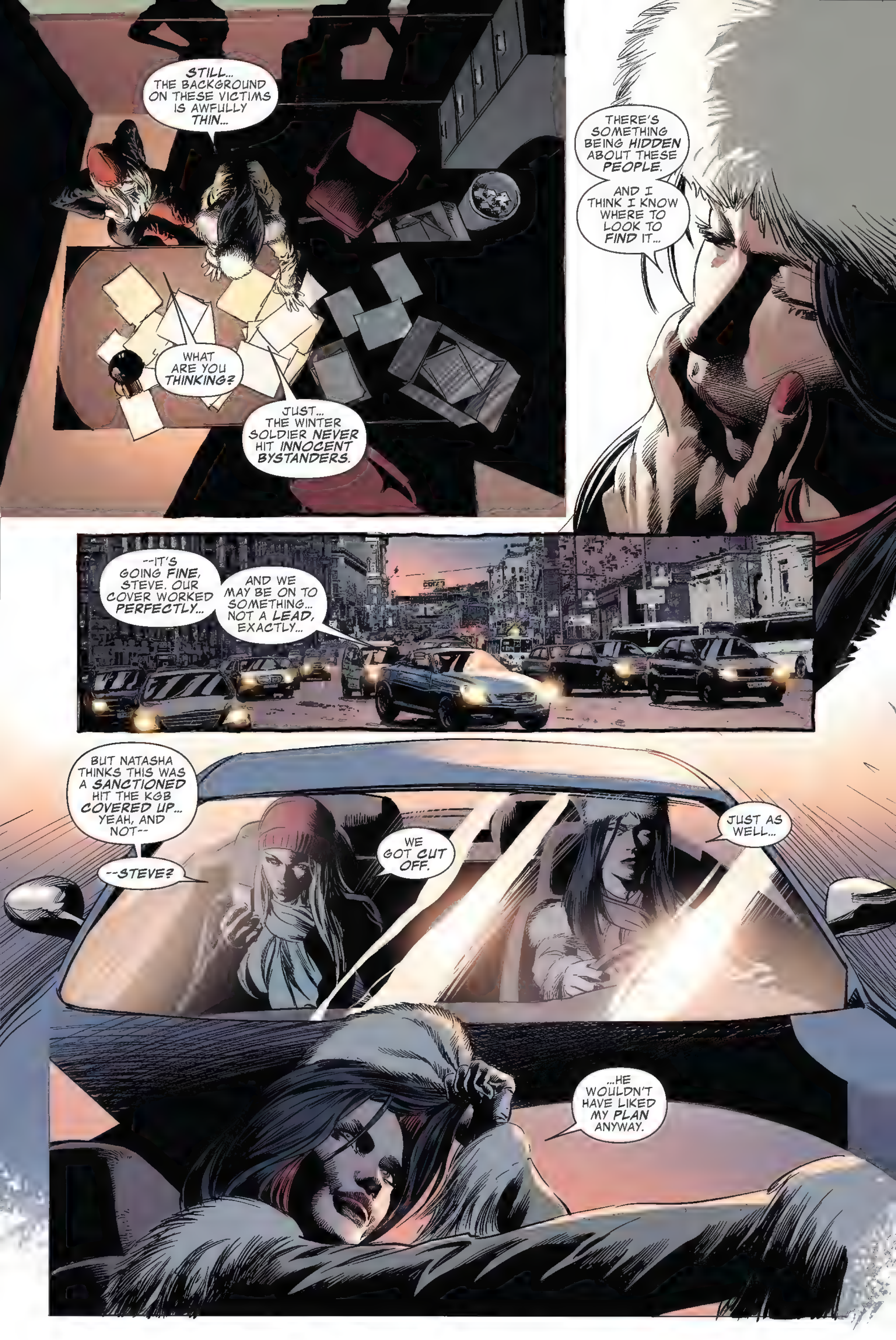

"AND I BELIEVE THIS IS THE PROPER DOCUMENT...
"...AND MY PRESS CREDENTIALS ARE ALL IN ORDER..."

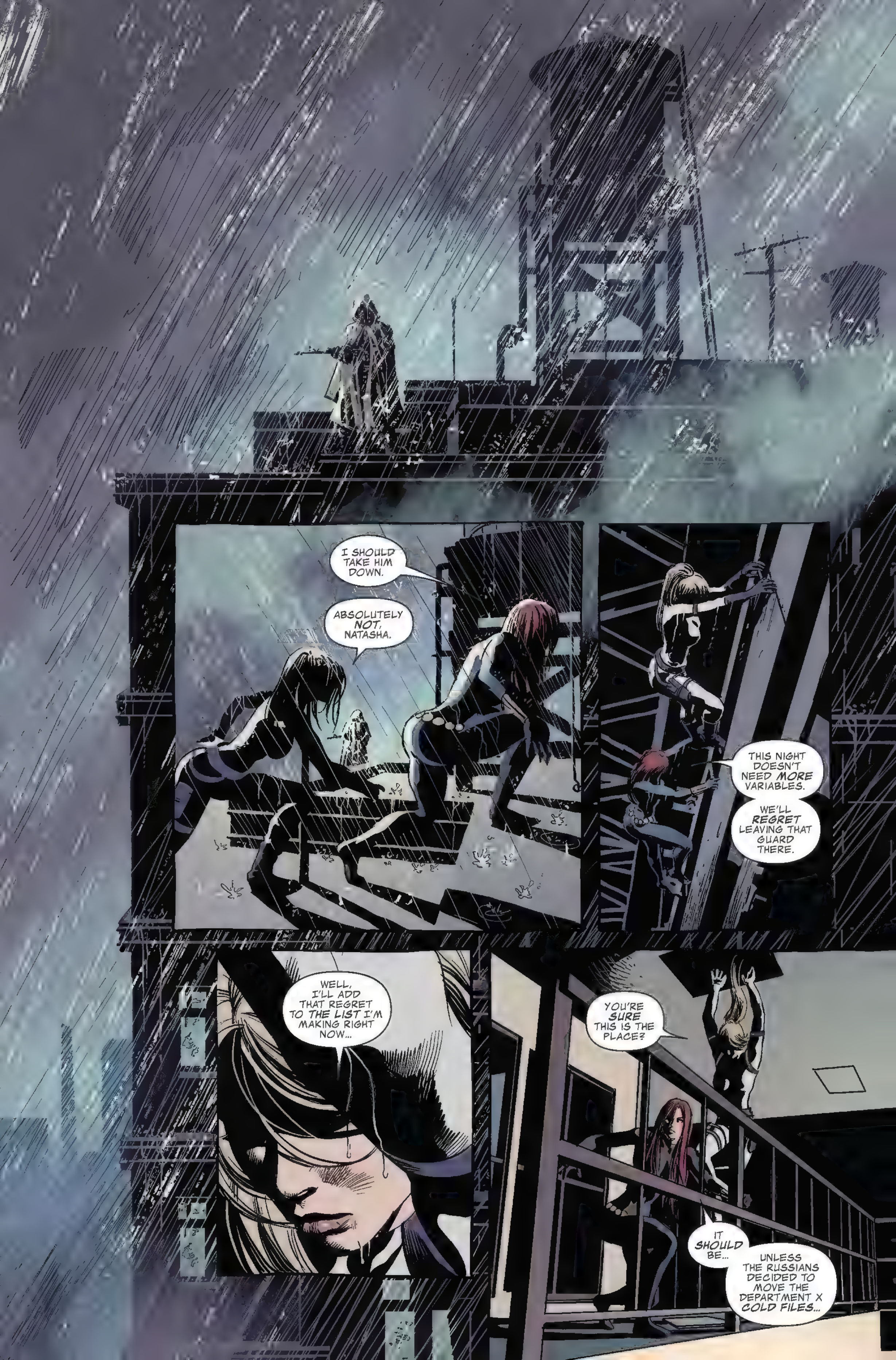

...SO IF YOU COULD LET US SEE THOSE FILES NOW?
<WHAT DOES SHE SAY?>
<SHE INSISTS ON COOPERATION OR SHE'LL REPORT YOU TO YOUR SUPERIORS.>

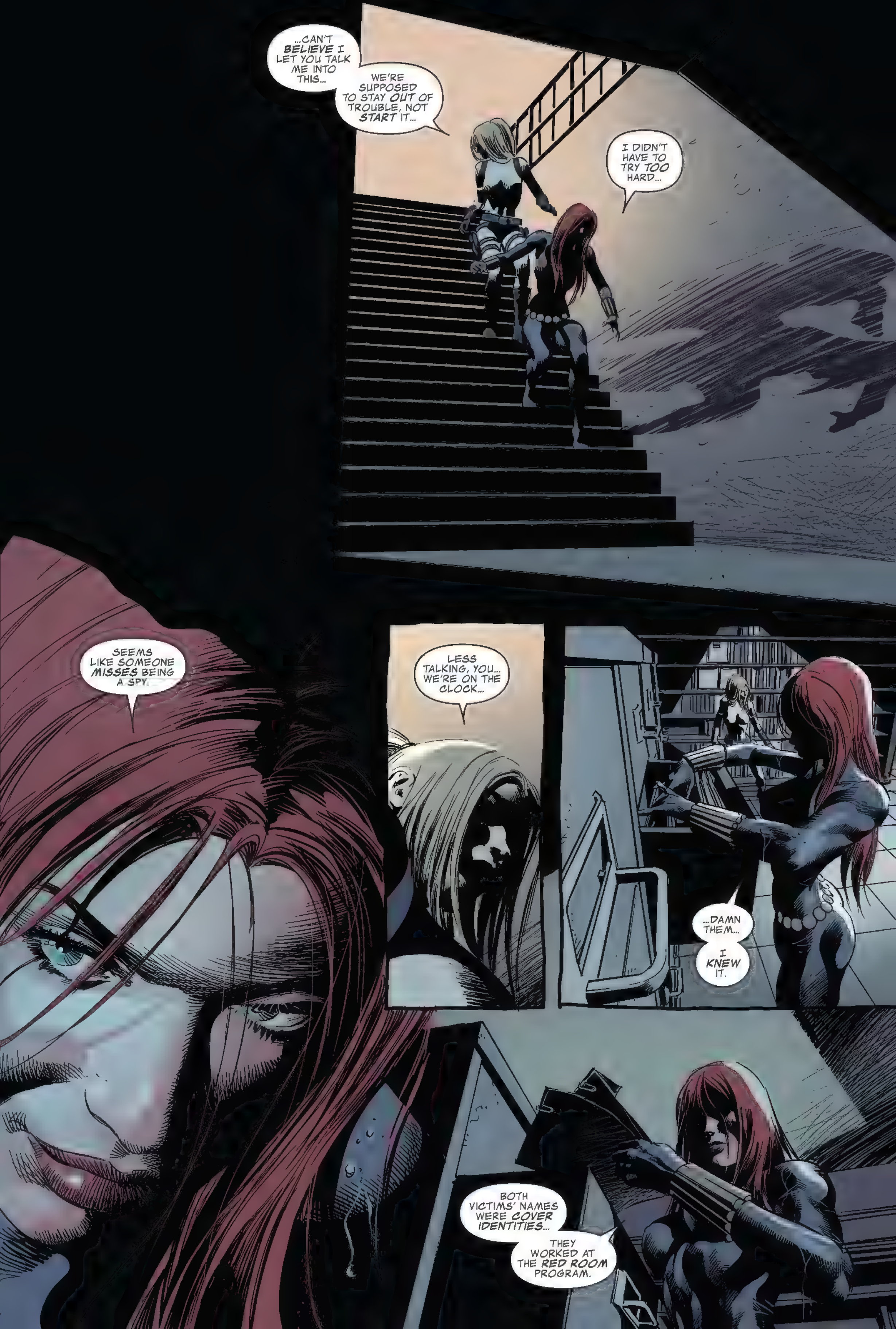
BLACK WIDOW

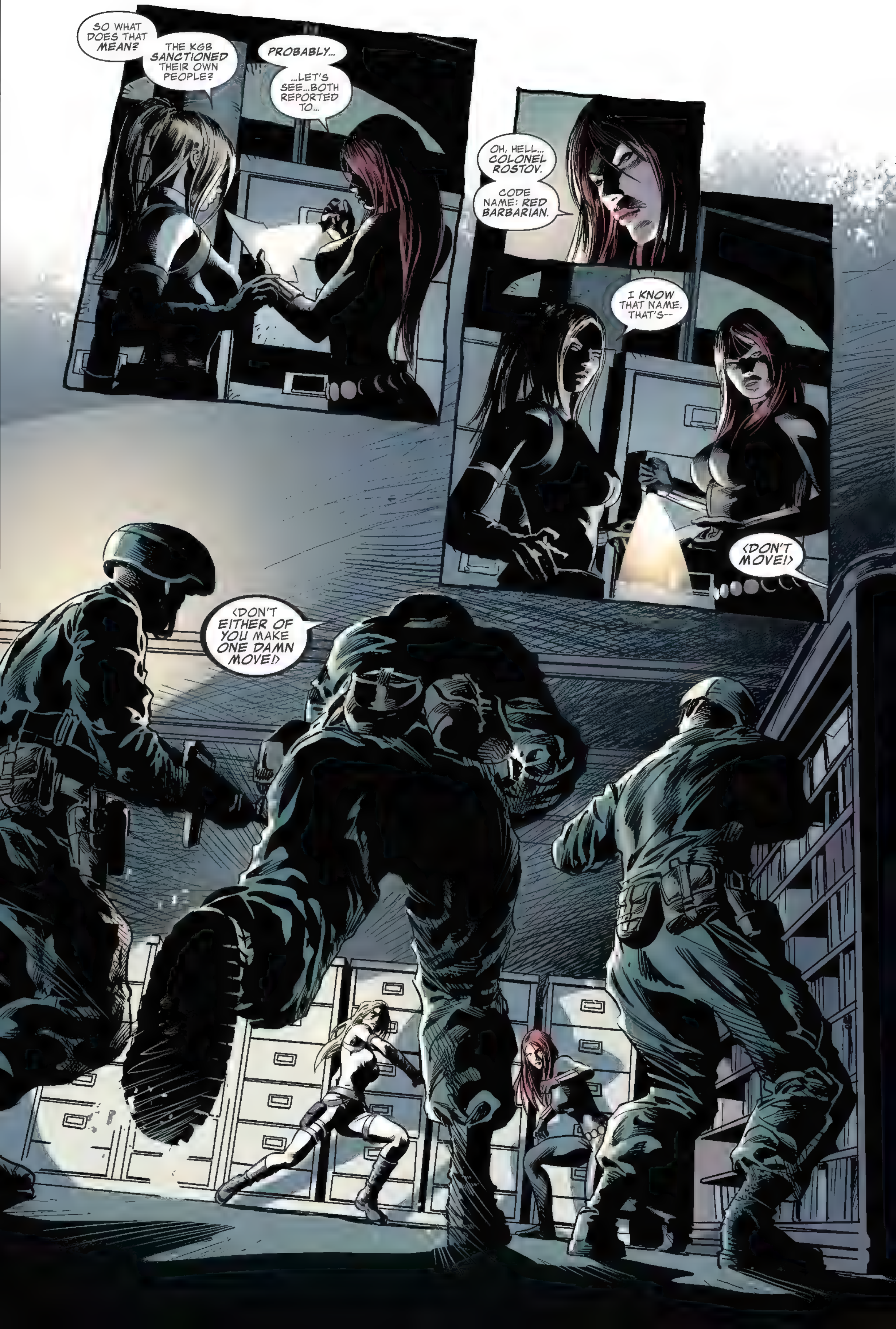

WHAT DID YOU SAY TO HIM?
WHAT HE NEEDED TO HEAR.
WELL...?
I DON'T KNOW, SHARON...
THE ORIGINAL TRANSCRIPTS SEEM IDENTICAL TO THE COPIES THE RUSSIANS SENT...

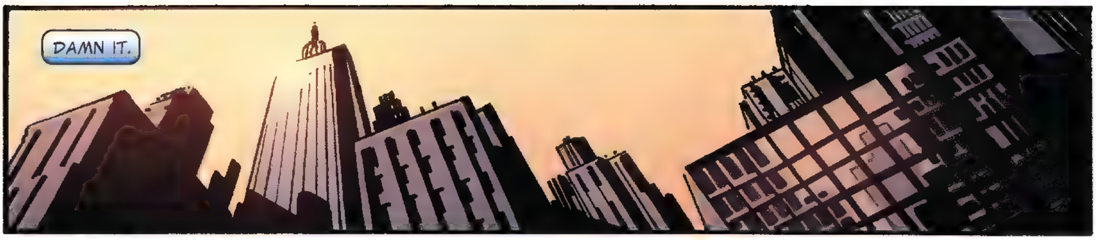

"THE DETAILS OF THE CRIME ARE *EXACTLY* THE SAME.
"NOVEMBER 17TH, 1982...
"TWO VICTIMS.
"ONE, A *VICTOR LODENKO*, AGE 56, IS SHOT IN THE HEAD.
"THE OTHER, MRS. *RINA SZYNSKI*, AGE 44...
"...IS KILLED IN THE *CROSSFIRE*... WHICH BLOWS UP HER CAR."
AND THE KGB *INSIST* THE WINTER SOLDIER HAD GONE *ROGUE* AT THAT POINT?
THEIR *REPORTS* FROM THAT TIME *BACK IT UP*, TOO...
...AND THEY *DON'T* APPEAR FORGED.


STILL... THE BACKGROUND ON THESE VICTIMS IS AWFULLY *THIN*...
WHAT ARE YOU *THINKING?*
JUST... THE WINTER SOLDIER *NEVER* HIT *INNOCENT BYSTANDERS.*
THERE'S SOMETHING BEING *HIDDEN* ABOUT THESE *PEOPLE.*
AND I THINK I KNOW WHERE TO LOOK TO *FIND* IT...
--IT'S GOING *FINE,* STEVE. OUR COVER WORKED *PERFECTLY*...
AND WE MAY BE ON TO SOMETHING... NOT A *LEAD,* EXACTLY...
BUT NATASHA THINKS THIS WAS A *SANCTIONED* HIT THE KGB *COVERED UP*... YEAH, AND NOT--
--*STEVE?*
WE GOT *CUT* OFF.
JUST AS WELL...
...HE WOULDN'T HAVE LIKED MY *PLAN* ANYWAY.

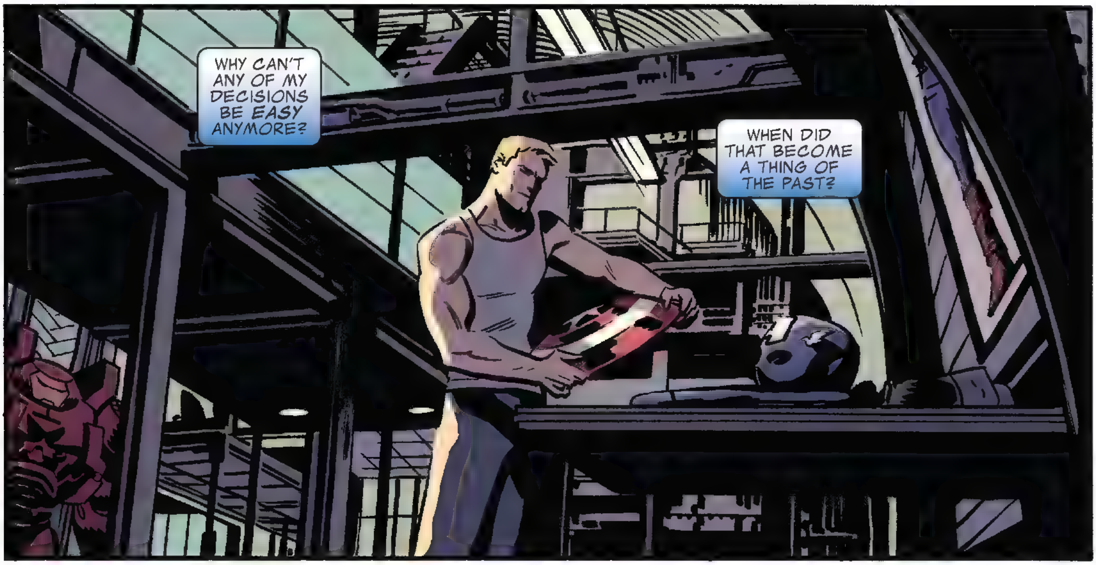

I SHOULD TAKE HIM DOWN.
ABSOLUTELY *NOT*, NATASHA.
THIS NIGHT DOESN'T NEED *MORE* VARIABLES.
WE'LL *REGRET* LEAVING THAT GUARD THERE.
WELL, I'LL ADD THAT REGRET TO *THE LIST* I'M MAKING RIGHT NOW...
YOU'RE *SURE* THIS IS THE PLACE?
IT *SHOULD* BE...
UNLESS THE RUSSIANS DECIDED TO MOVE THE DEPARTMENT X *COLD FILES*...

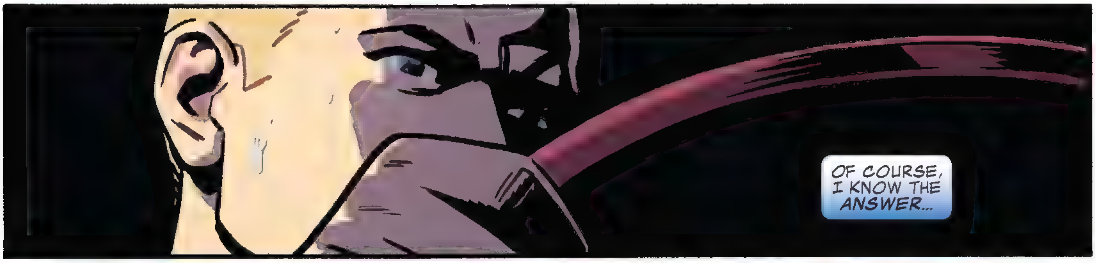

...CAN'T BELIEVE I LET YOU TALK ME INTO THIS...
WE'RE SUPPOSED TO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE, NOT START IT...
I DIDN'T HAVE TO TRY TOO HARD...
SEEMS LIKE SOMEONE MISSES BEING A SPY.
LESS TALKING, YOU... WE'RE ON THE CLOCK...
...DAMN THEM...
I KNEW IT.
BOTH VICTIMS' NAMES WERE COVER IDENTITIES...
THEY WORKED AT THE RED ROOM PROGRAM.

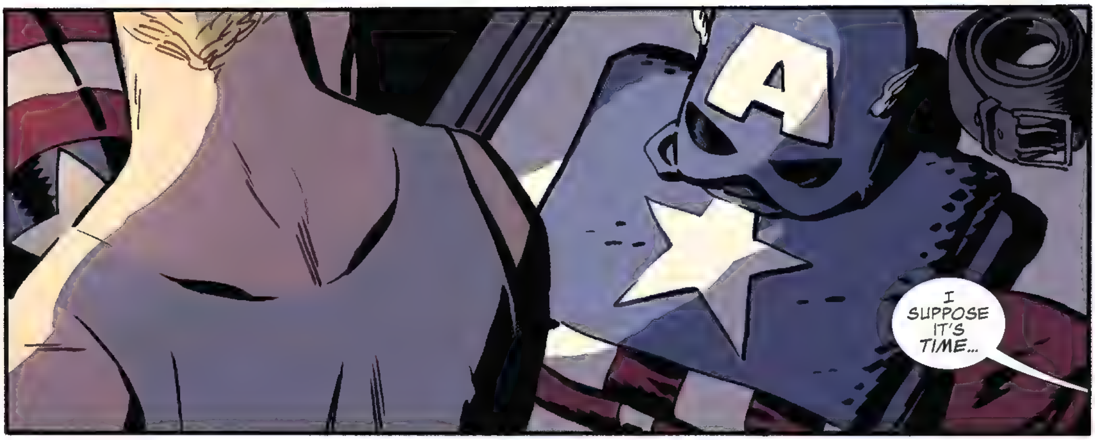

SO WHAT DOES THAT *MEAN?*
THE KGB *SANCTIONED* THEIR OWN PEOPLE?
PROBABLY...
...LET'S SEE...BOTH REPORTED TO...
OH, HELL... *COLONEL ROSTOV.*
CODE NAME: *RED BARBARIAN.*
I *KNOW* THAT NAME. THAT'S--
‹DON'T MOVE!›
‹DON'T EITHER OF YOU MAKE ONE DAMN MOVE!›

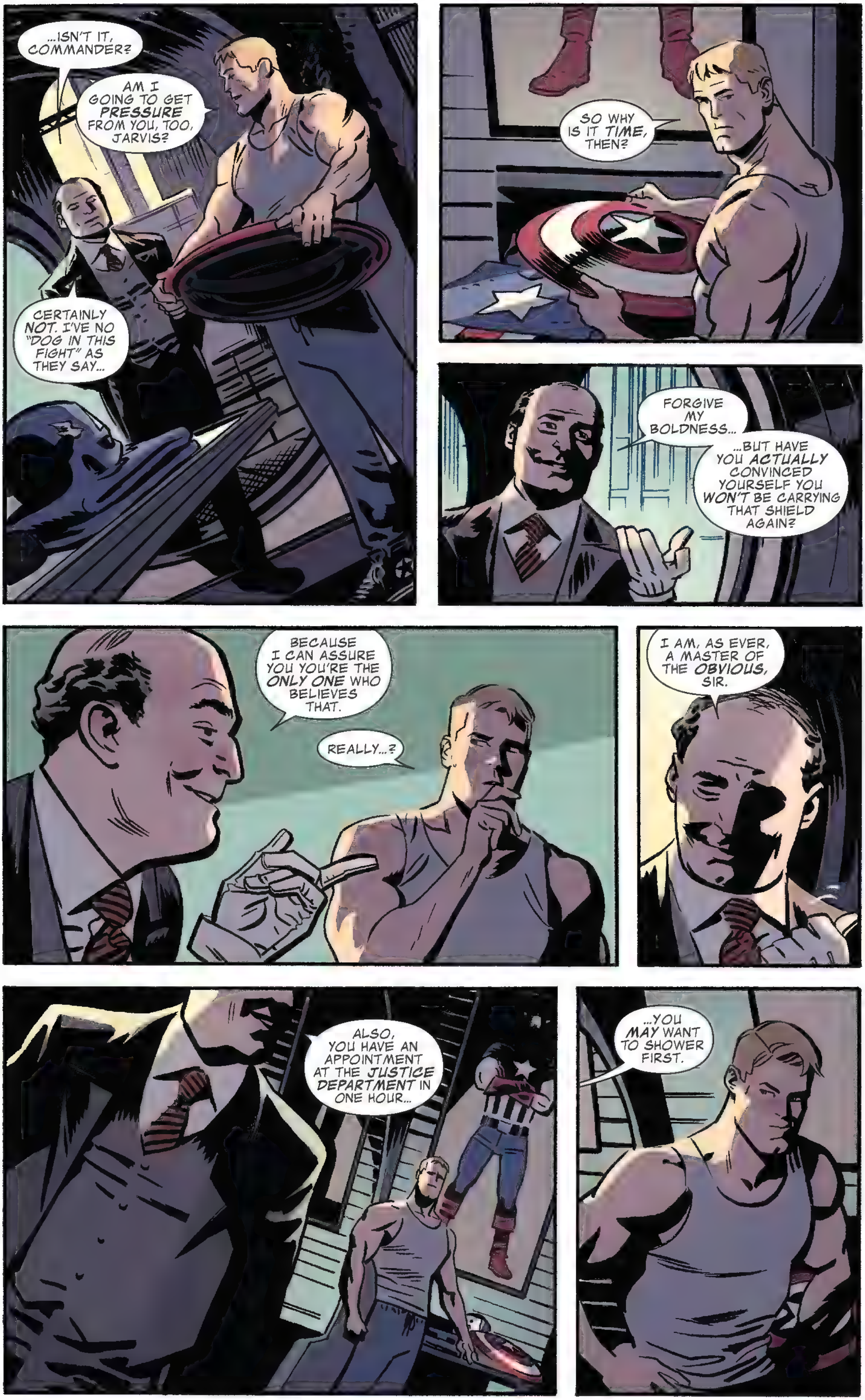


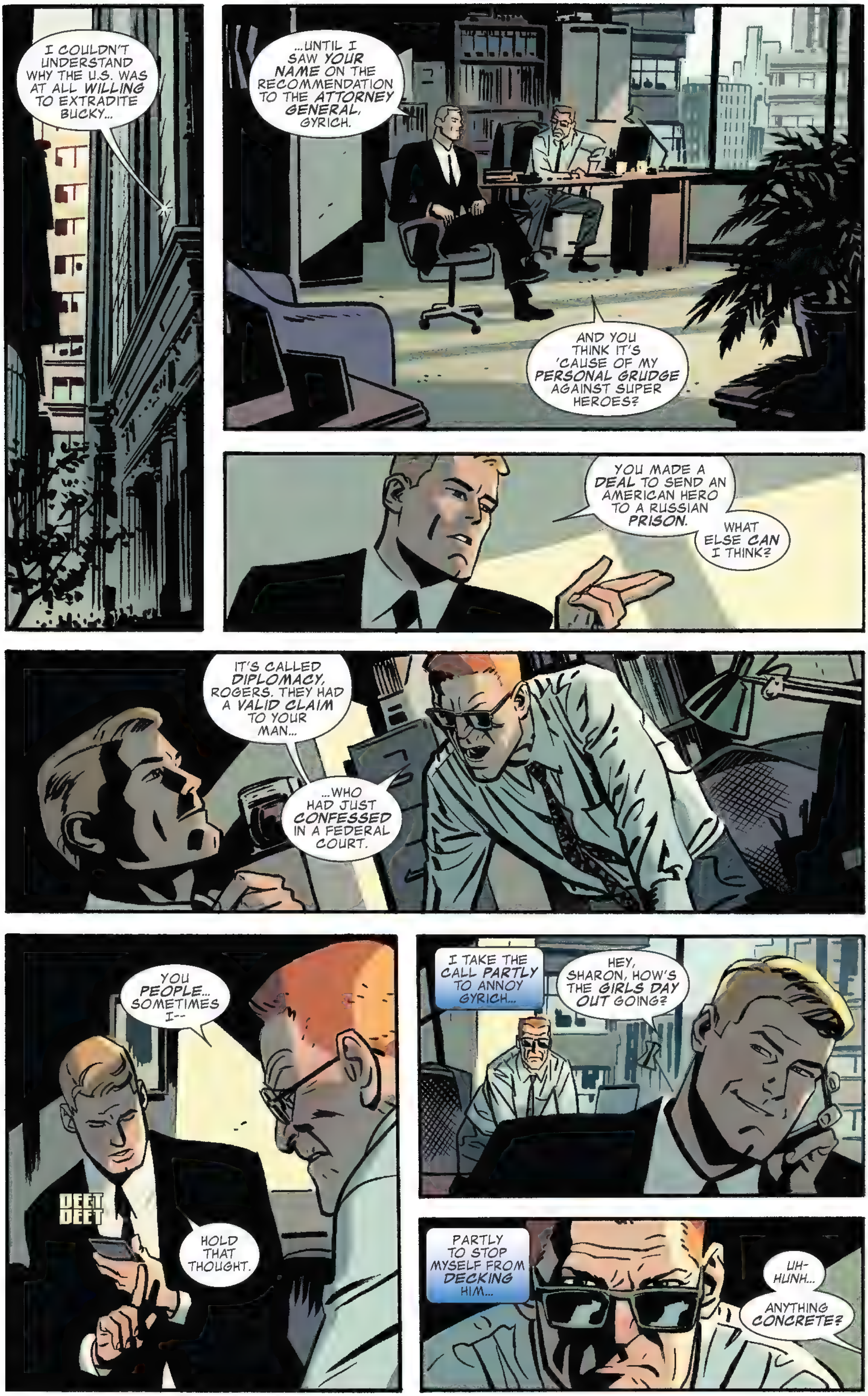
SUPER-SOLDIER

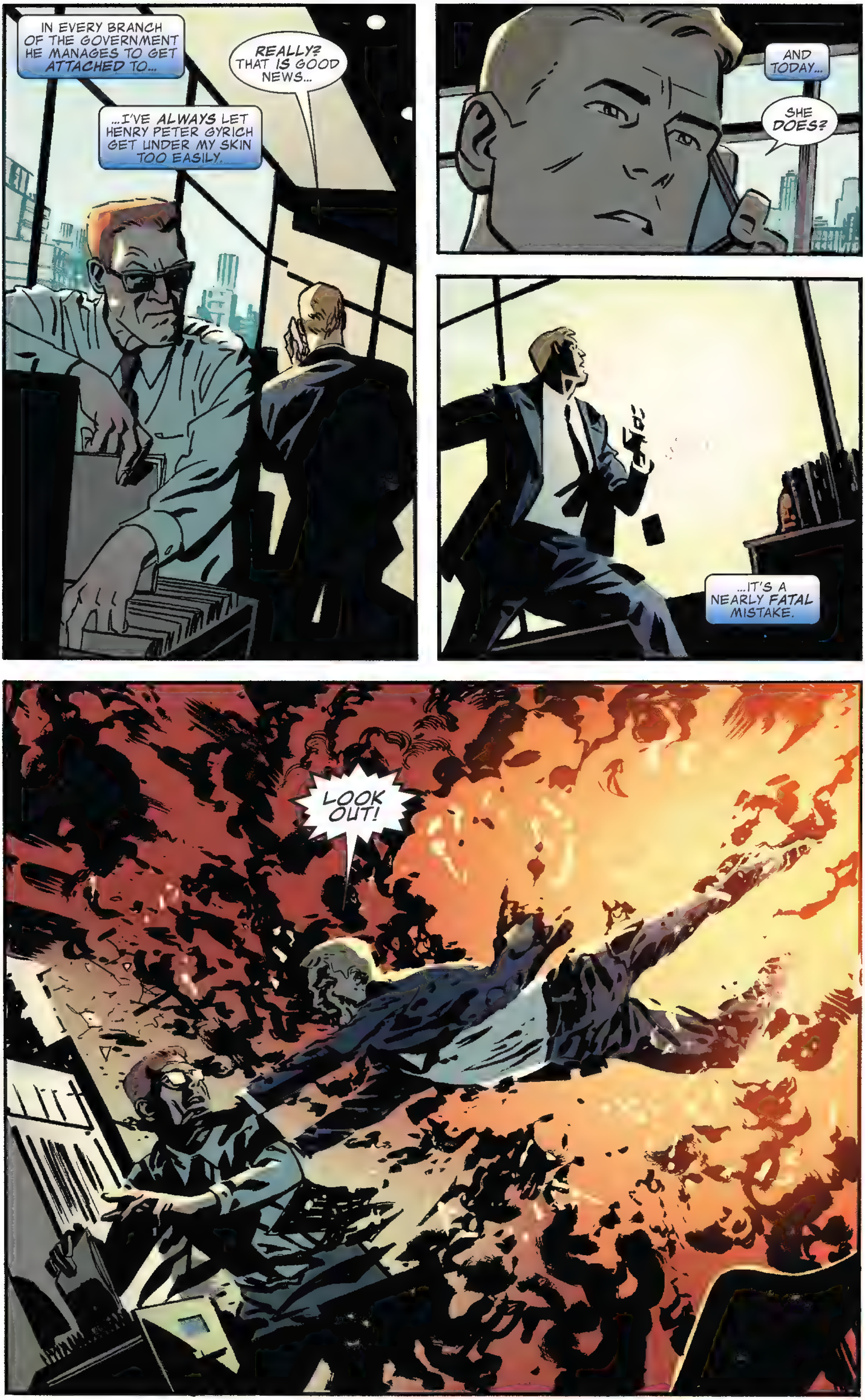

WHY CAN'T ANY OF MY DECISIONS BE *EASY* ANYMORE?
WHEN DID THAT BECOME A THING OF THE PAST?

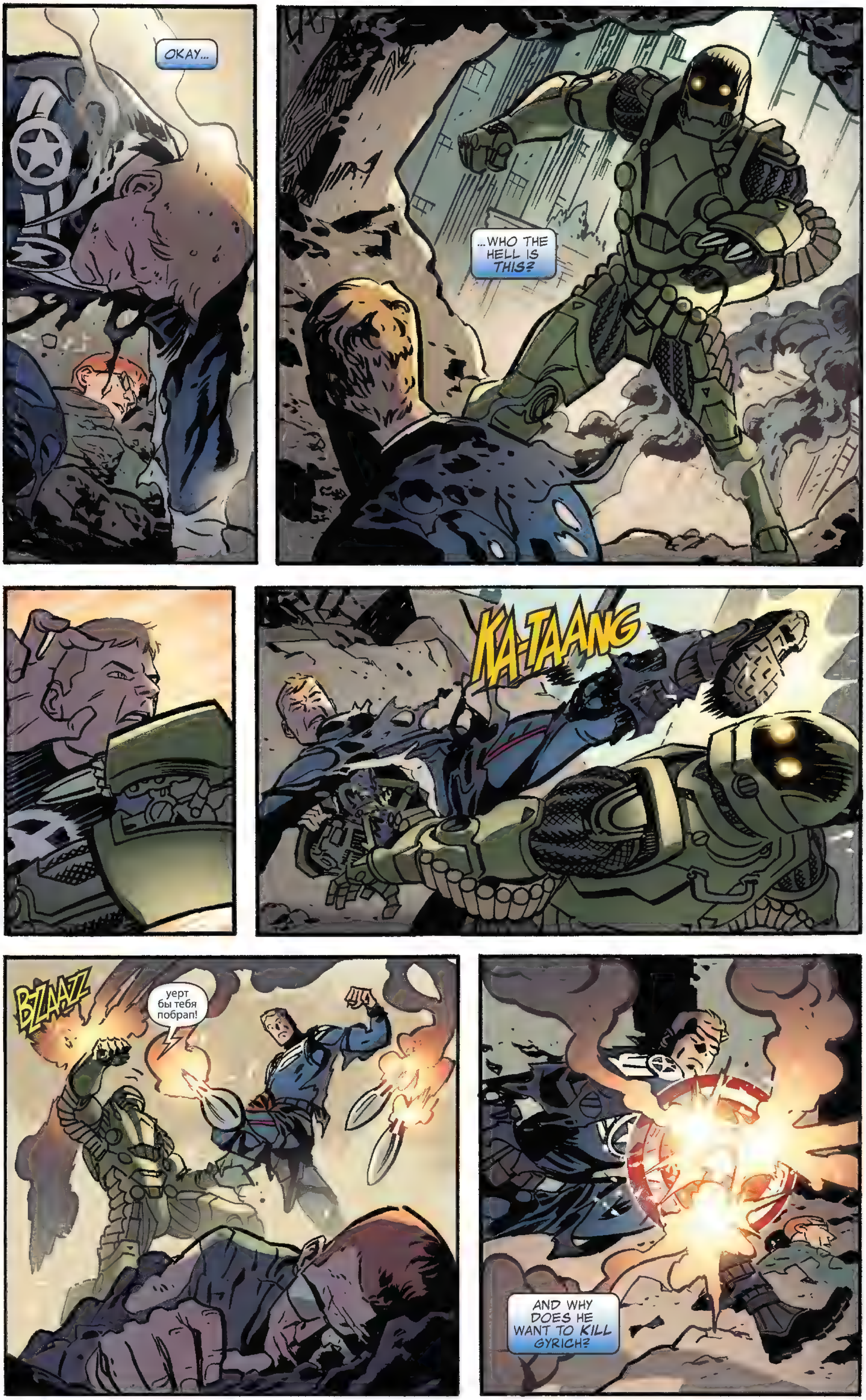

OF COURSE, I KNOW THE *ANSWER...*

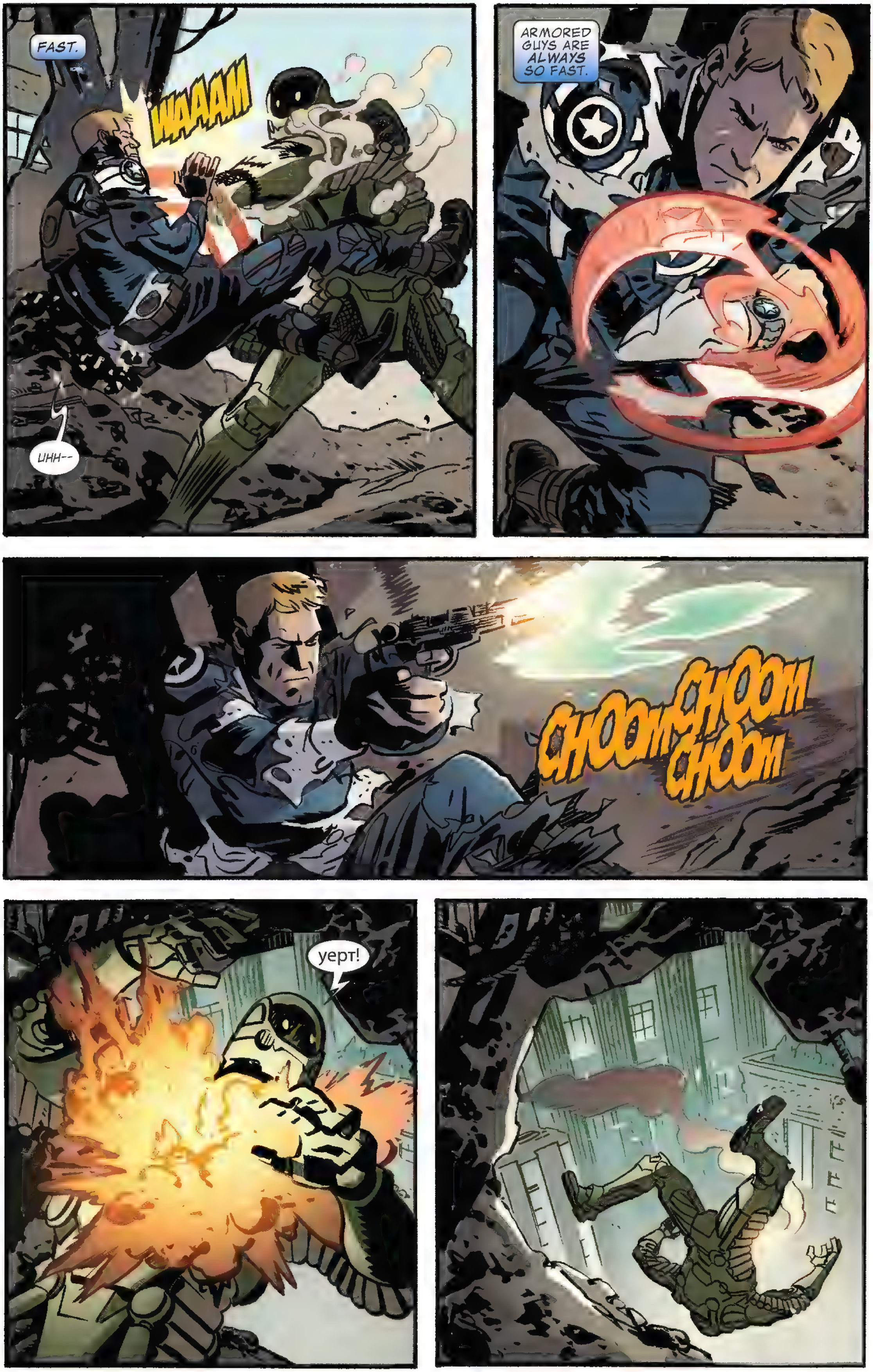

I SUPPOSE IT'S *TIME...*

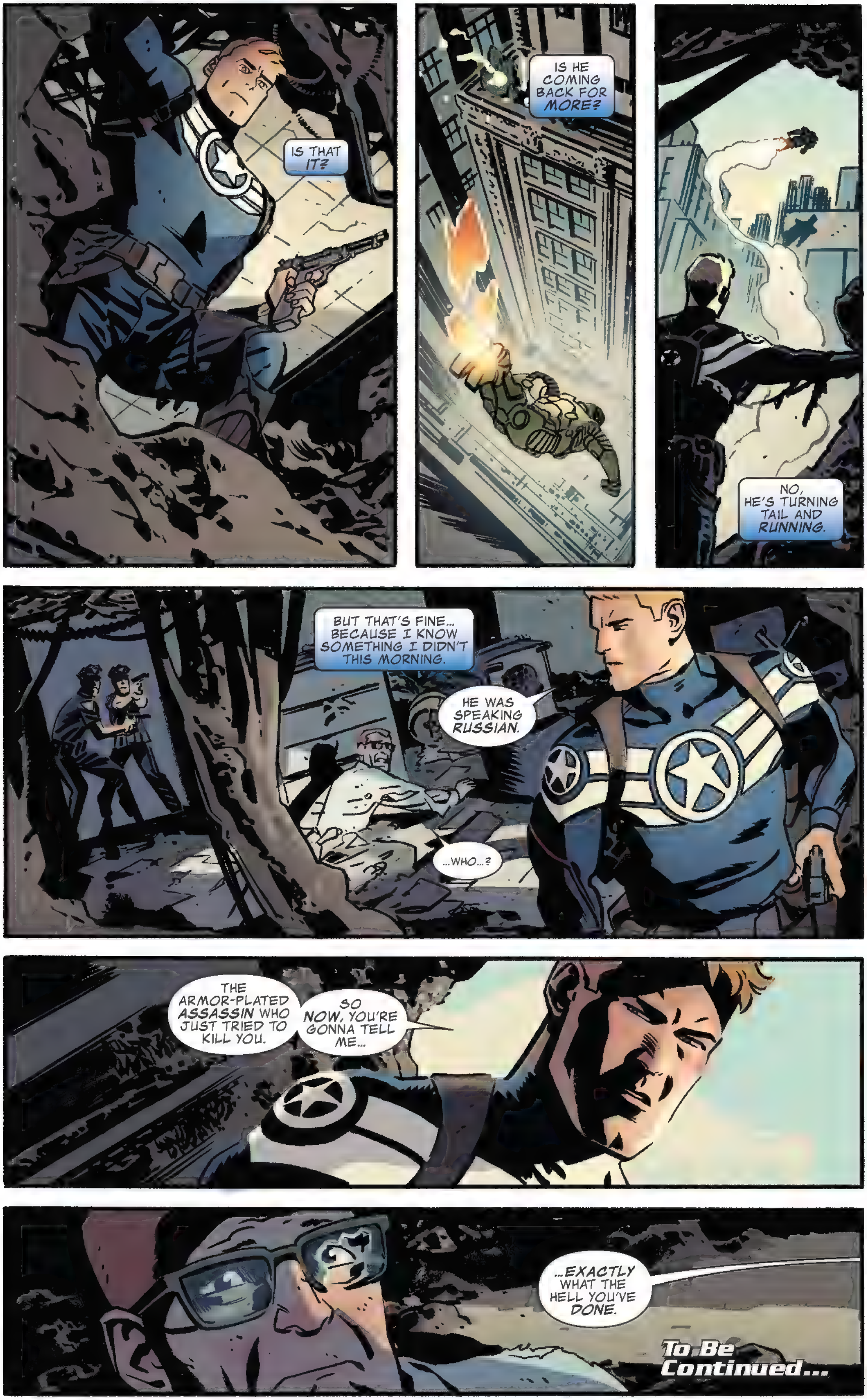

...ISN'T IT, COMMANDER?
AM I GOING TO GET **PRESSURE** FROM YOU, TOO, JARVIS?
CERTAINLY ***NOT.*** I'VE NO "*DOG IN THIS FIGHT*" AS THEY SAY...
SO WHY IS IT ***TIME,*** THEN?
FORGIVE MY BOLDNESS...
...BUT HAVE YOU ***ACTUALLY*** CONVINCED YOURSELF YOU ***WON'T*** BE CARRYING THAT SHIELD AGAIN?
BECAUSE I CAN ASSURE YOU YOU'RE THE ***ONLY ONE*** WHO BELIEVES THAT.
REALLY...?
I AM, AS EVER, A MASTER OF THE ***OBVIOUS,*** SIR.
ALSO, YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT AT THE ***JUSTICE DEPARTMENT*** IN ONE HOUR...
...YOU ***MAY*** WANT TO SHOWER FIRST.


I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY THE U.S. WAS AT ALL *WILLING* TO EXTRADITE BUCKY...
...UNTIL I SAW *YOUR NAME* ON THE RECOMMENDATION TO THE *ATTORNEY GENERAL*, GYRICH.
AND YOU THINK IT'S 'CAUSE OF MY *PERSONAL GRUDGE* AGAINST SUPER HEROES?
YOU MADE A *DEAL* TO SEND AN AMERICAN HERO TO A RUSSIAN *PRISON*.
WHAT ELSE *CAN* I THINK?
IT'S CALLED *DIPLOMACY*, ROGERS. THEY HAD A *VALID CLAIM* TO YOUR MAN...
...WHO HAD JUST *CONFESSED* IN A FEDERAL COURT.
YOU *PEOPLE*... SOMETIMES I--
DEET DEET
HOLD THAT THOUGHT.
I TAKE THE CALL *PARTLY* TO ANNOY GYRICH...
HEY, SHARON, HOW'S THE *GIRLS DAY OUT* GOING?
PARTLY TO STOP MYSELF FROM *DECKING* HIM...
UH-HUNH...
ANYTHING *CONCRETE?*


IN EVERY BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT HE MANAGES TO GET *ATTACHED* TO...
REALLY? THAT *IS* GOOD NEWS...
...I'VE *ALWAYS* LET HENRY PETER GYRICH GET UNDER MY SKIN TOO EASILY.
AND TODAY...
SHE *DOES?*
...IT'S A NEARLY *FATAL* MISTAKE.
LOOK OUT!


OKAY...
...WHO THE HELL IS THIS?
KA-TAANG
BZAAZZ
уерт бы тебя побрап!
AND WHY DOES HE WANT TO KILL GYRICH?


FAST.
WAAAM
UHH--
ARMORED GUYS ARE ALWAYS SO FAST.
CHOOM CHOOM CHOOM
yept!


IS THAT *IT?*
IS HE COMING BACK FOR *MORE?*
NO, HE'S TURNING TAIL AND *RUNNING.*
BUT THAT'S FINE... BECAUSE I KNOW SOMETHING I DIDN'T THIS MORNING.
HE WAS SPEAKING *RUSSIAN.*
...WHO...?
THE ARMOR-PLATED *ASSASSIN* WHO JUST TRIED TO KILL YOU.
SO *NOW,* YOU'RE GONNA TELL ME...
...*EXACTLY* WHAT THE HELL YOU'VE *DONE.*
To Be Continued...

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RY U.S.
hery
Is Begun
ngress Takes
Prompt Action

CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

Now Bucky finds himself condemned to a brutal Russian gulag for his crimes as the brainwashed Russian assassin, The Winter Soldier. Bucky is tossed into a series of gladiator fights against the worst of the Gulag's residents!

After befriending a former KGB comrade, Alexi, Bucky finds his next match in the arena is against the former Soviet super-soldier, the Titanium Man!

Black Widow and Sharon Carter have gone to Russia to unearth the truth about Bucky's imprisonment, but are caught unawares by several armed assailants...

Back in America, Steve Rogers grills government agent Henry Gyrich as to his recommendation that Bucky be transferred to the Russians. Before Rogers can get anywhere, an explosion marks the entrance of an upgraded version of the Titanium Man. Dispatching the Russian-speaking super-soldier, Steve's suspicions regarding Gyrich having a role in Bucky's captivity seem to have been confirmed...

GULAG part 3

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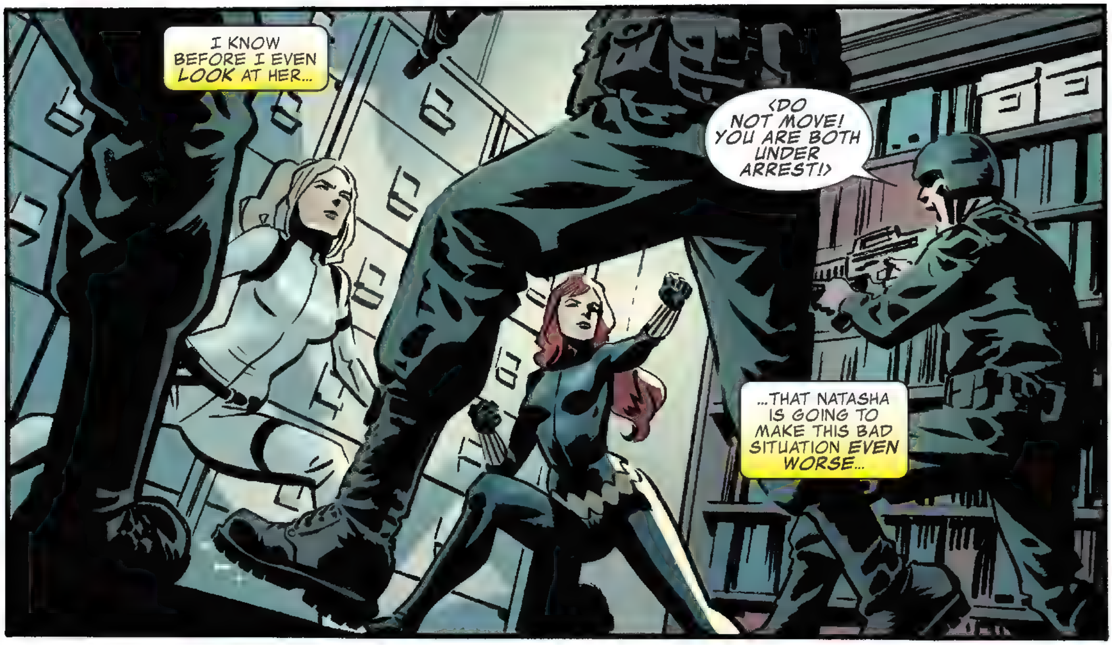
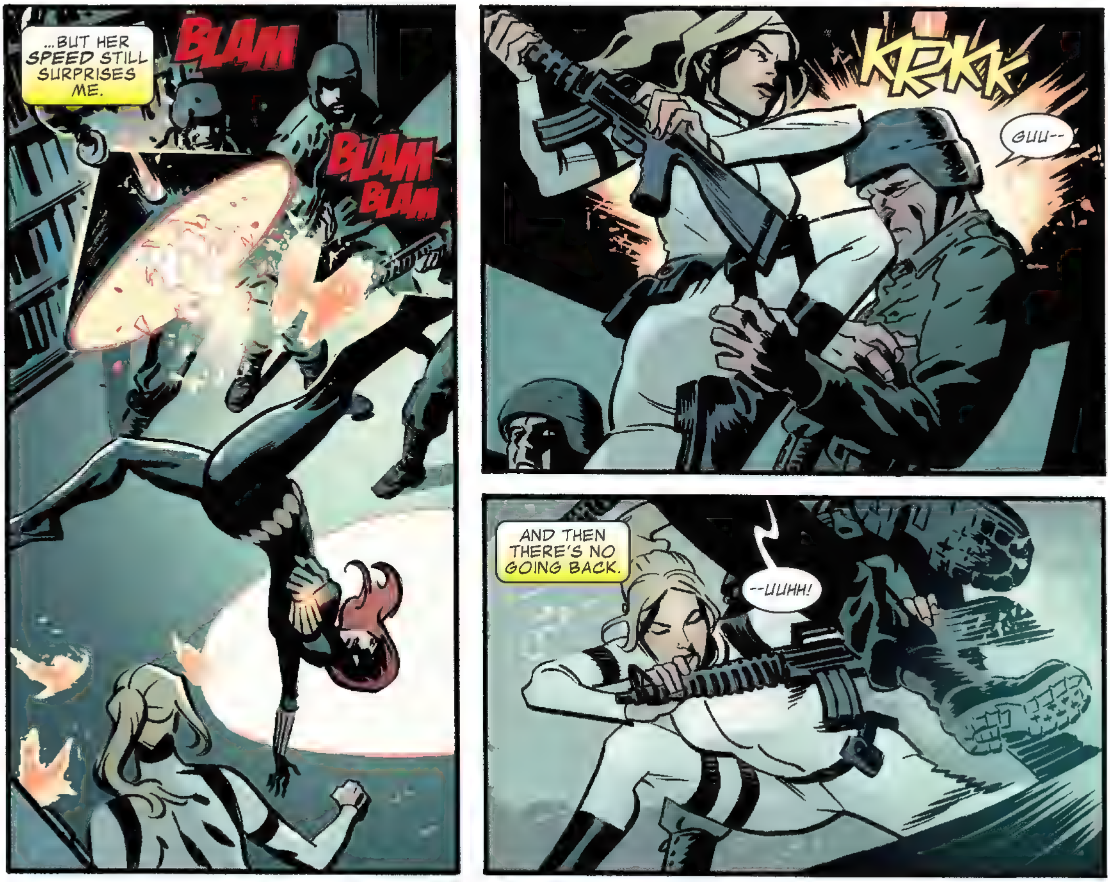
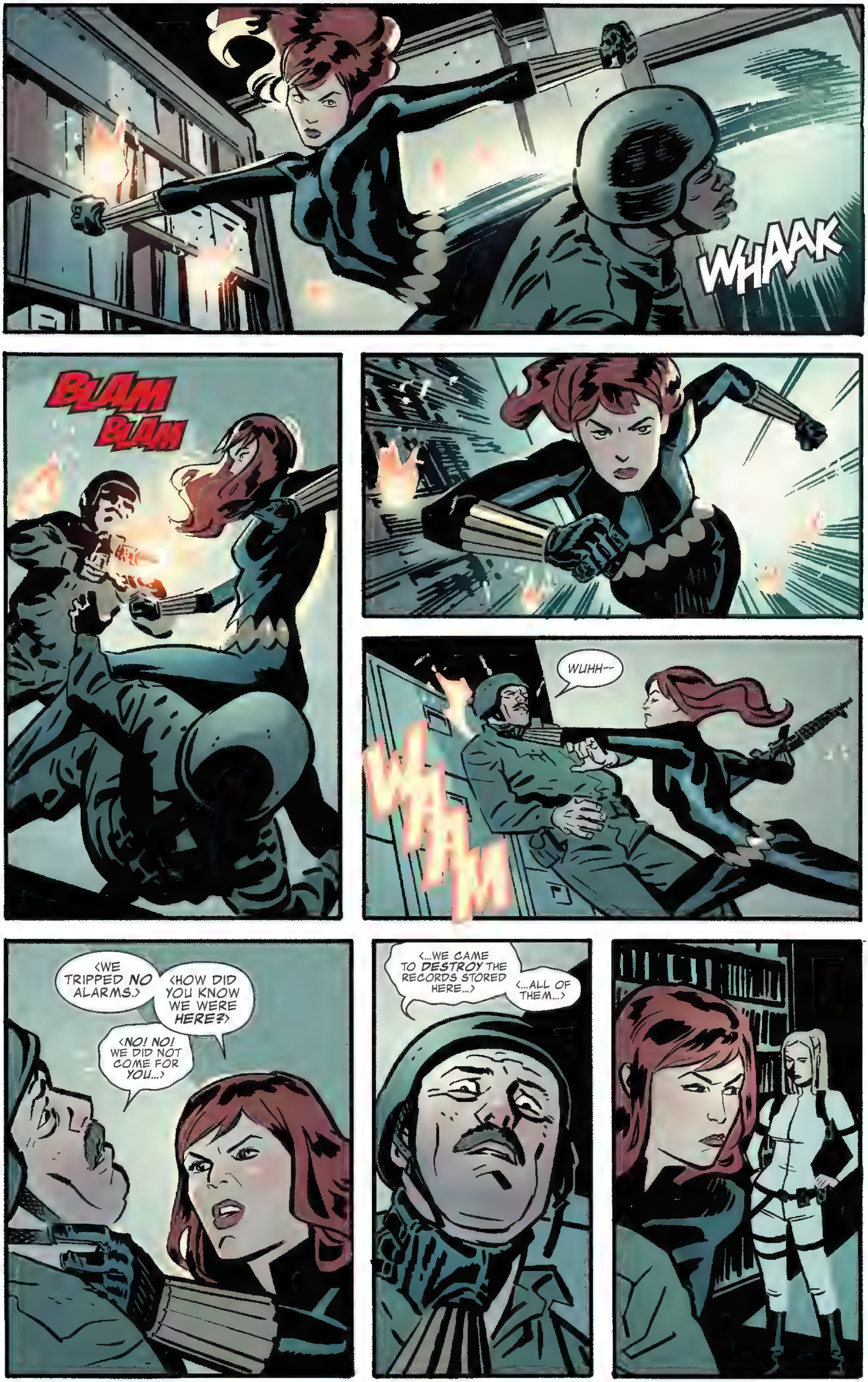
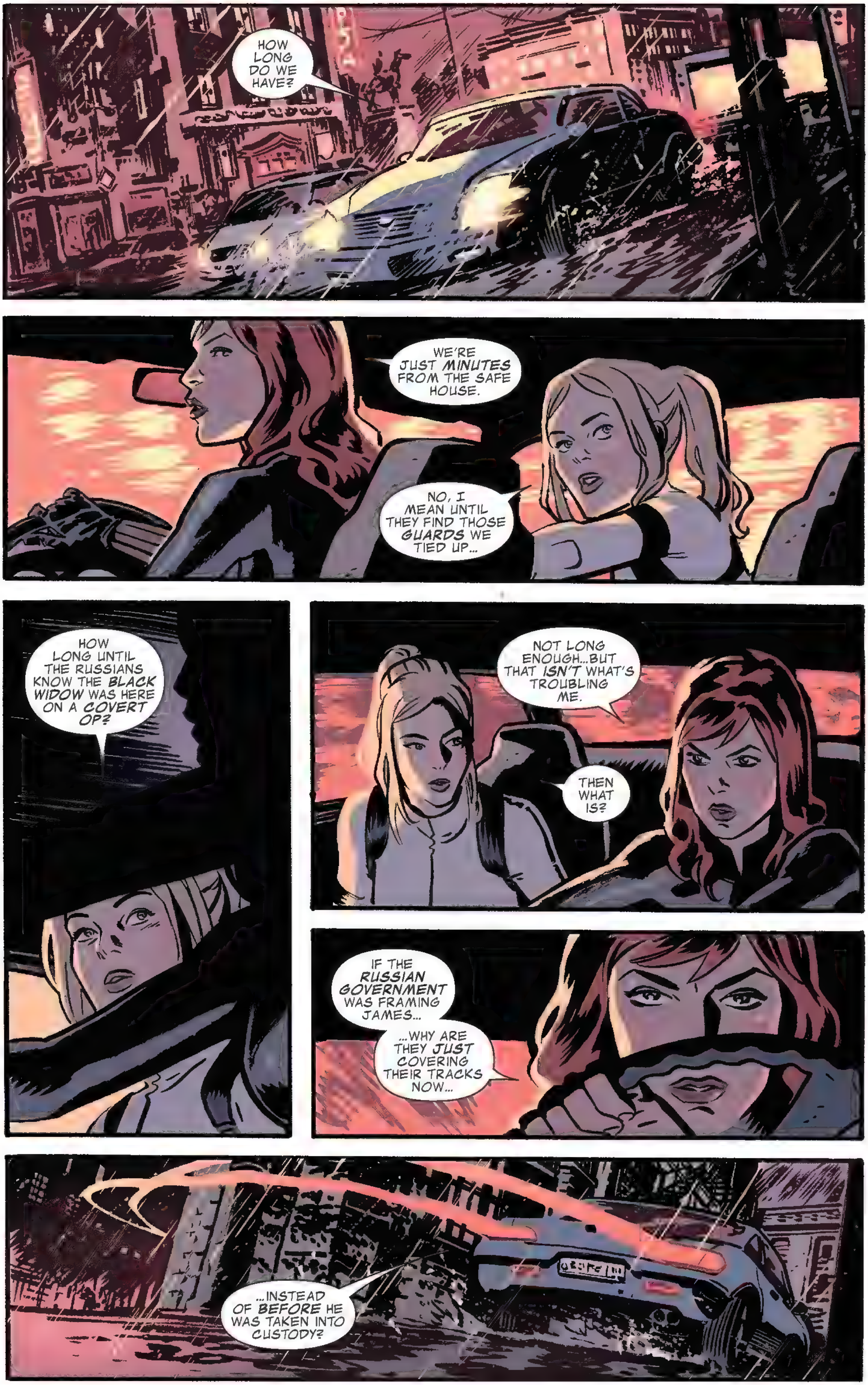
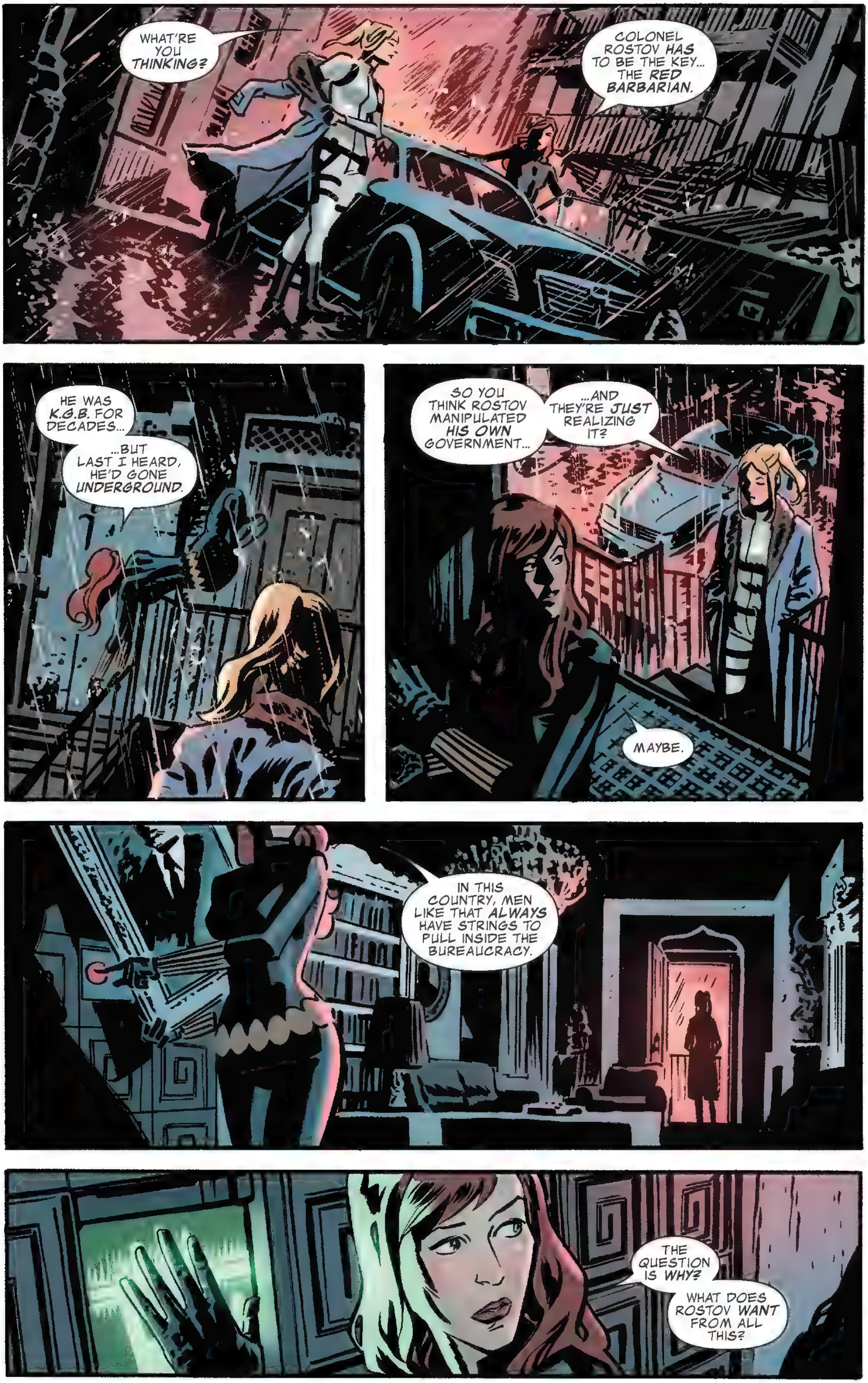

I KNOW BEFORE I EVEN *LOOK* AT HER...
‹DO NOT MOVE! YOU ARE BOTH UNDER ARREST!›
...THAT NATASHA IS GOING TO MAKE THIS BAD SITUATION *EVEN* WORSE...

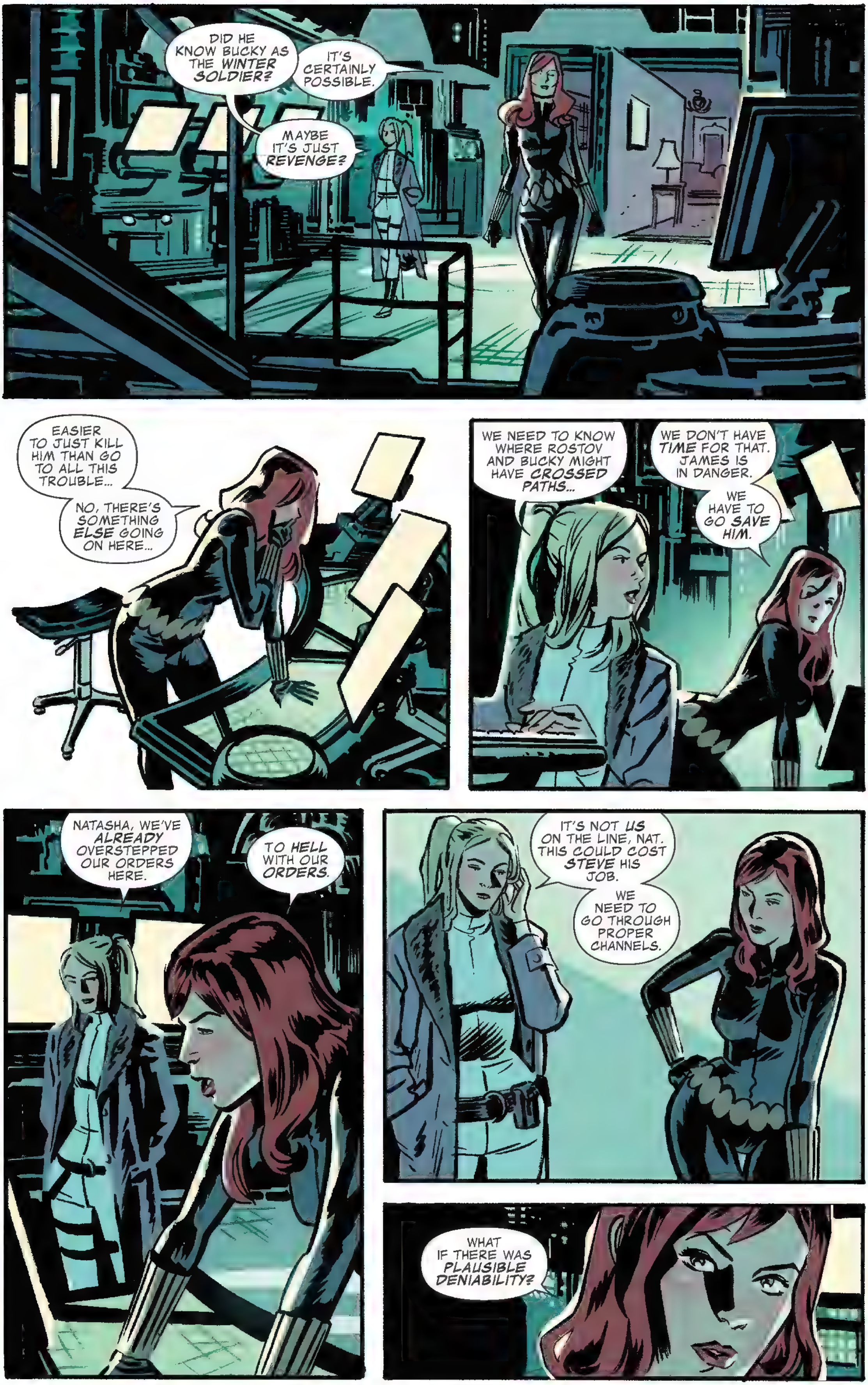
AGENT 13

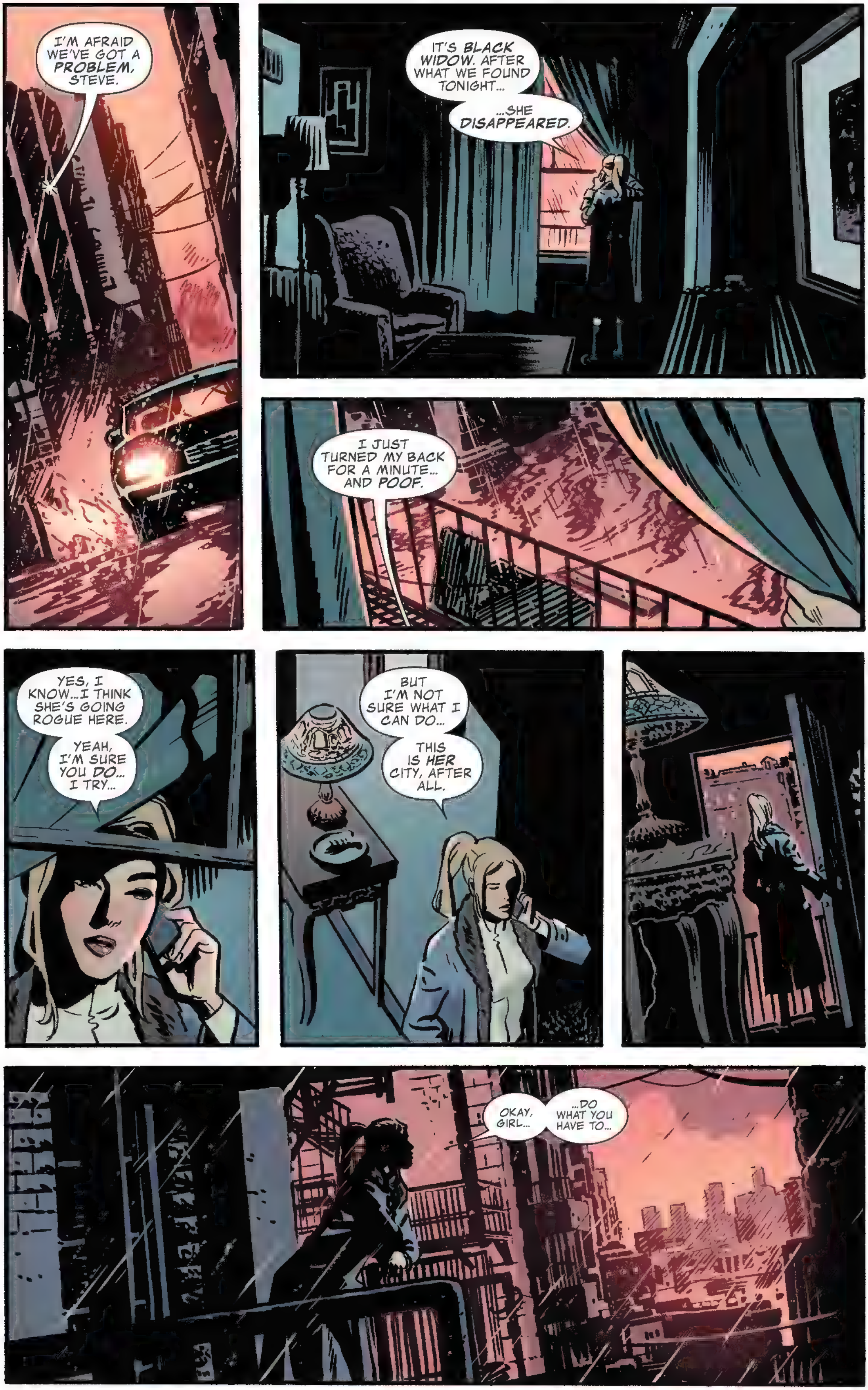

...BUT HER *SPEED* STILL SURPRISES ME.
BLAM
BLAM BLAM
KRKK
GUU--
AND THEN THERE'S NO GOING BACK.
--UUHH!

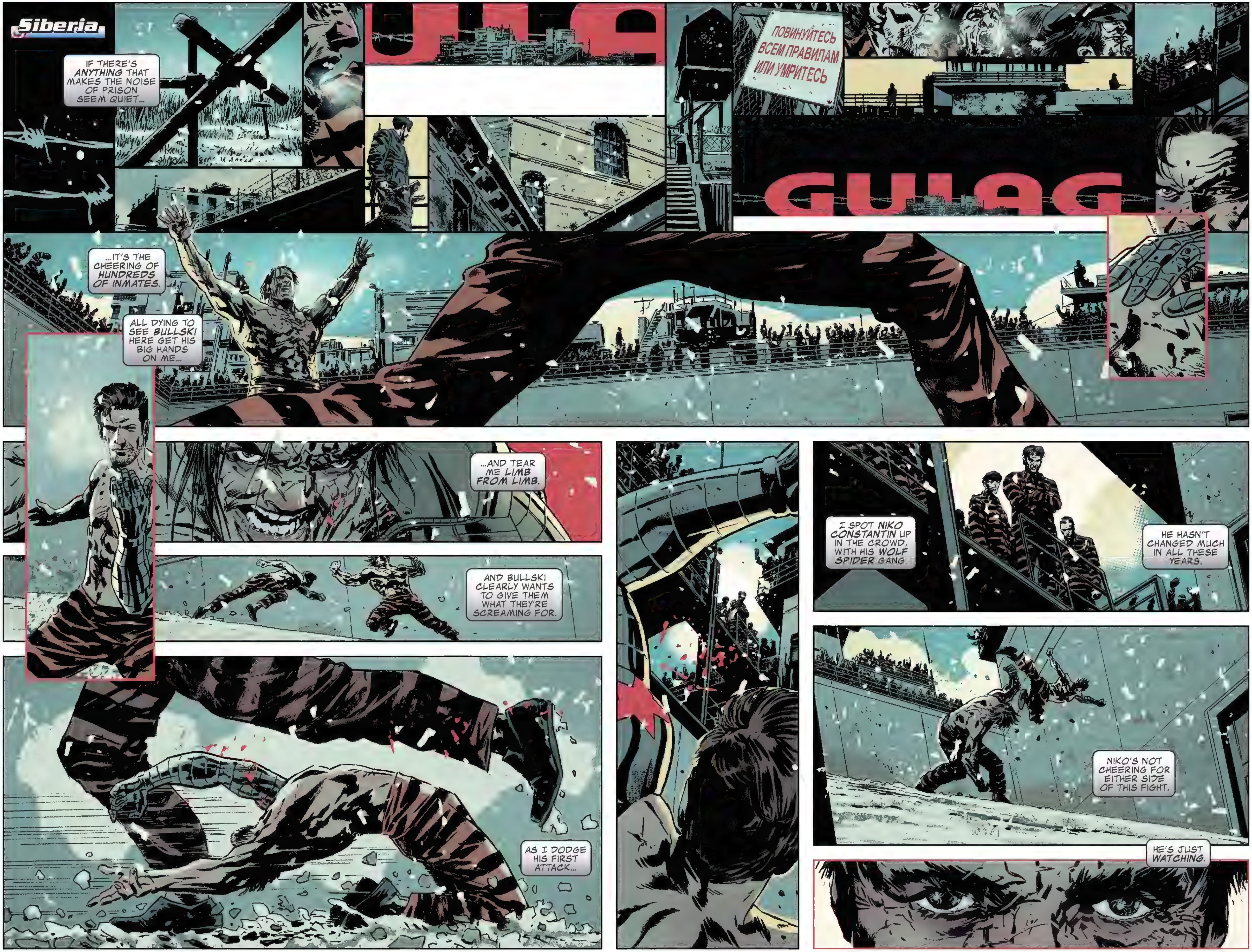

WHAAK
BLAM
BLAM
WUHH--
WHAM
‹WE TRIPPED NO ALARMS.›
‹HOW DID YOU KNOW WE WERE HERE?›
‹NO! NO! WE DID NOT COME FOR YOU...›
‹...WE CAME TO DESTROY THE RECORDS STORED HERE...›
‹...ALL OF THEM...›

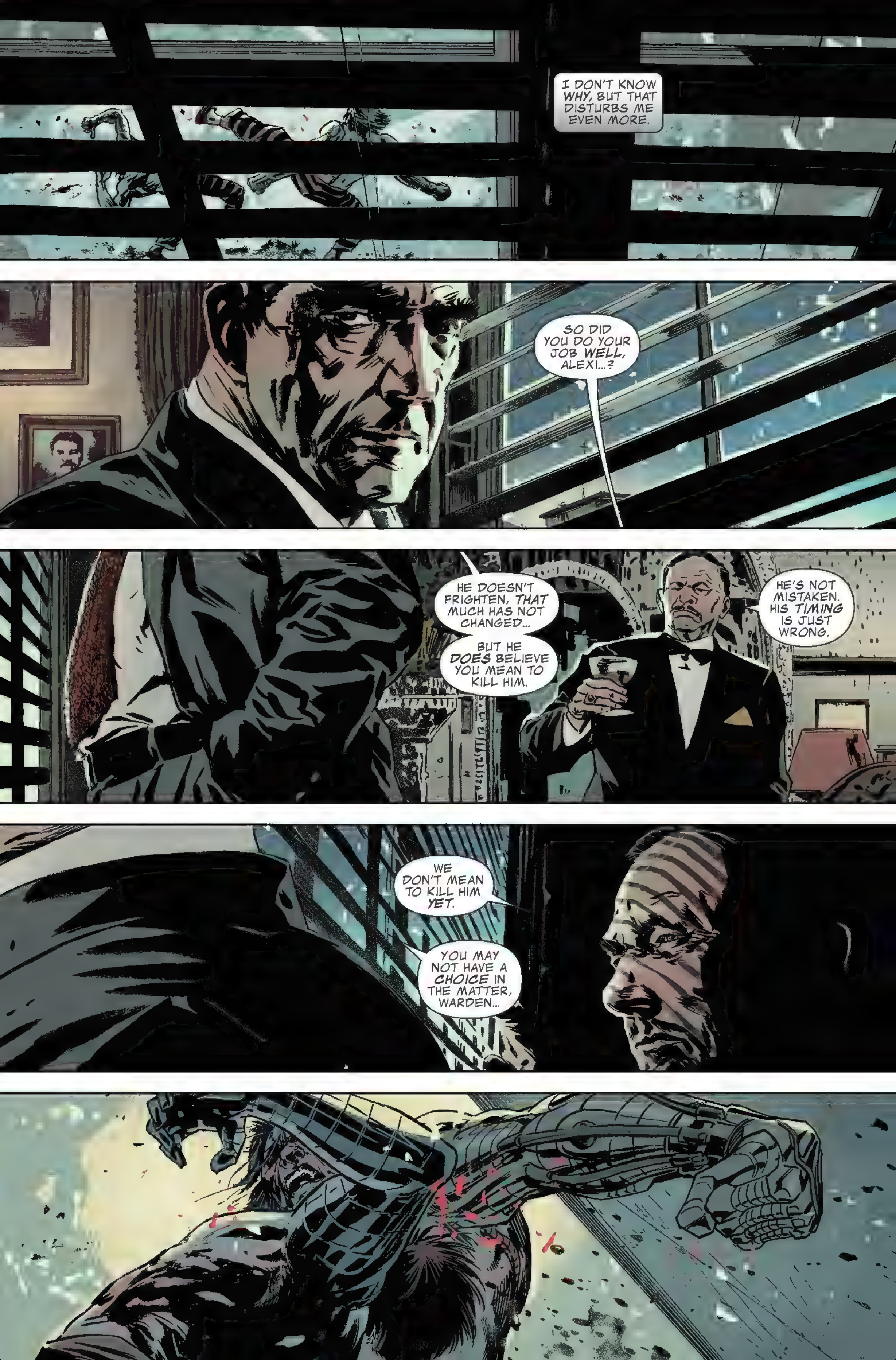

HOW LONG DO WE HAVE?
WE'RE JUST MINUTES FROM THE SAFE HOUSE.
NO, I MEAN UNTIL THEY FIND THOSE GUARDS WE TIED UP...
HOW LONG UNTIL THE RUSSIANS KNOW THE BLACK WIDOW WAS HERE ON A COVERT OP?
NOT LONG ENOUGH...BUT THAT ISN'T WHAT'S TROUBLING ME.
THEN WHAT IS?
IF THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT WAS FRAMING JAMES...
...WHY ARE THEY JUST COVERING THEIR TRACKS NOW...
...INSTEAD OF BEFORE HE WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY?

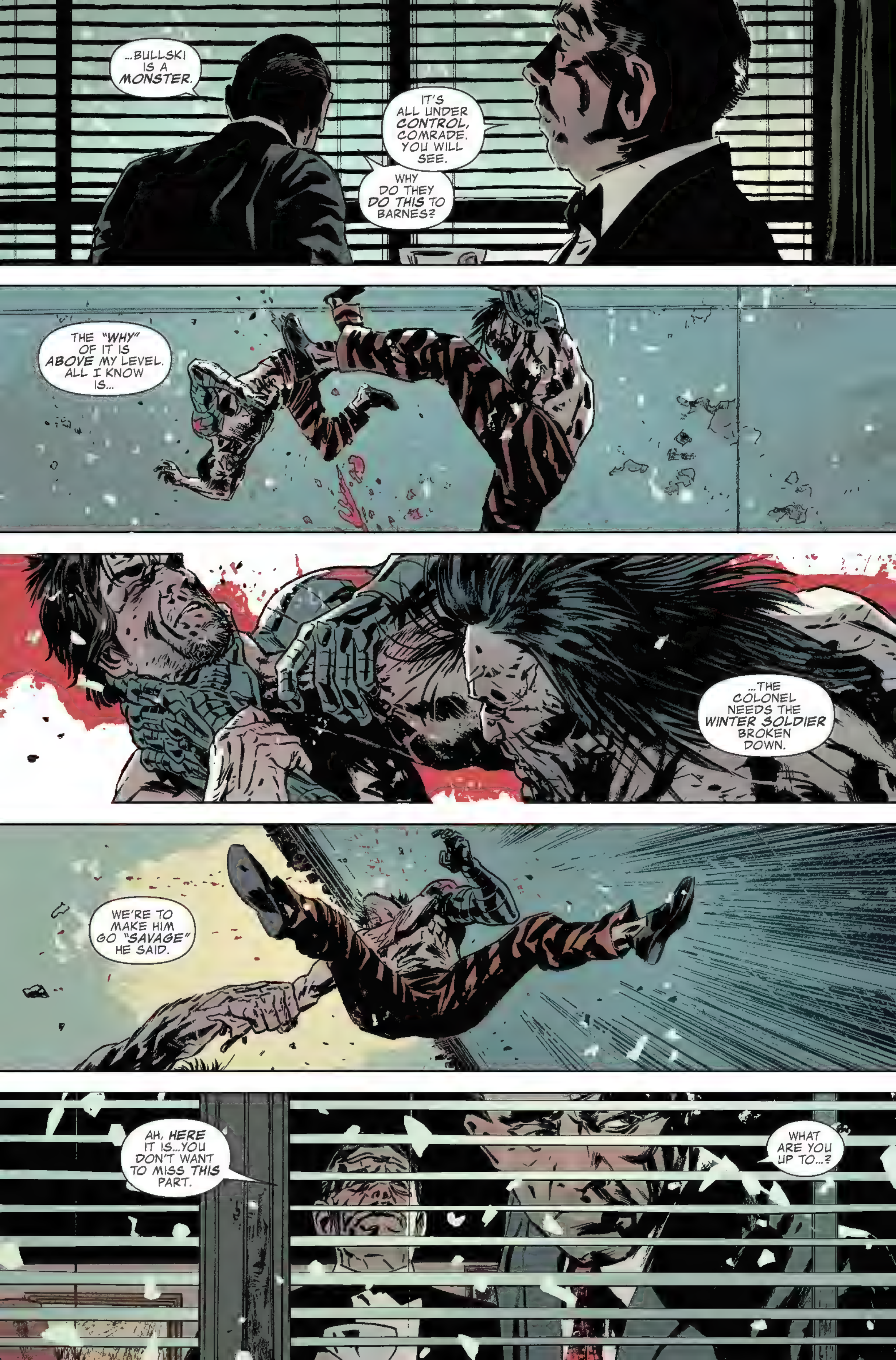

WHAT'RE YOU *THINKING?*
COLONEL ROSTOV *HAS* TO BE THE KEY... THE *RED BARBARIAN.*
HE WAS *K.G.B.* FOR DECADES...
...BUT LAST I HEARD, HE'D GONE *UNDERGROUND.*
SO YOU THINK ROSTOV MANIPULATED *HIS OWN* GOVERNMENT...
...AND THEY'RE *JUST* REALIZING IT?
MAYBE.
IN THIS COUNTRY, MEN LIKE THAT *ALWAYS* HAVE STRINGS TO PULL INSIDE THE BUREAUCRACY.
THE QUESTION IS *WHY?*
WHAT DOES ROSTOV *WANT* FROM ALL THIS?

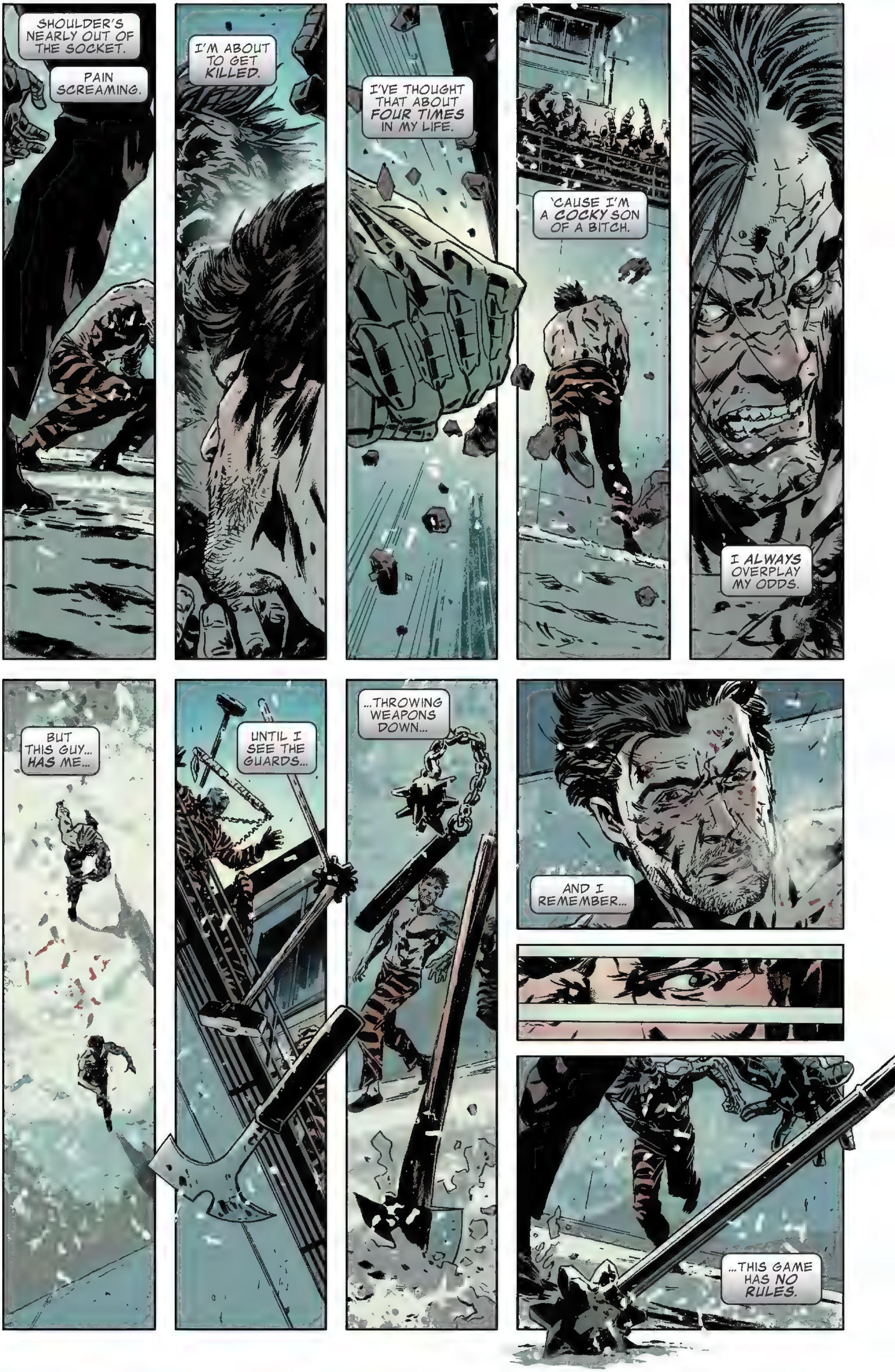

DID HE KNOW BUCKY AS THE *WINTER SOLDIER?*
IT'S CERTAINLY POSSIBLE.
MAYBE IT'S JUST *REVENGE?*
EASIER TO JUST KILL HIM THAN GO TO ALL THIS TROUBLE...
NO, THERE'S SOMETHING *ELSE* GOING ON HERE...
WE NEED TO KNOW WHERE ROSTOV AND BUCKY MIGHT HAVE *CROSSED PATHS...*
WE DON'T HAVE *TIME* FOR THAT. JAMES IS IN DANGER.
WE HAVE TO GO *SAVE HIM.*
NATASHA, WE'VE *ALREADY* OVERSTEPPED OUR ORDERS HERE.
TO *HELL* WITH OUR *ORDERS.*
IT'S NOT *US* ON THE LINE, NAT. THIS COULD COST *STEVE* HIS JOB.
WE NEED TO GO THROUGH PROPER CHANNELS.
WHAT IF THERE WAS *PLAUSIBLE DENIABILITY?*

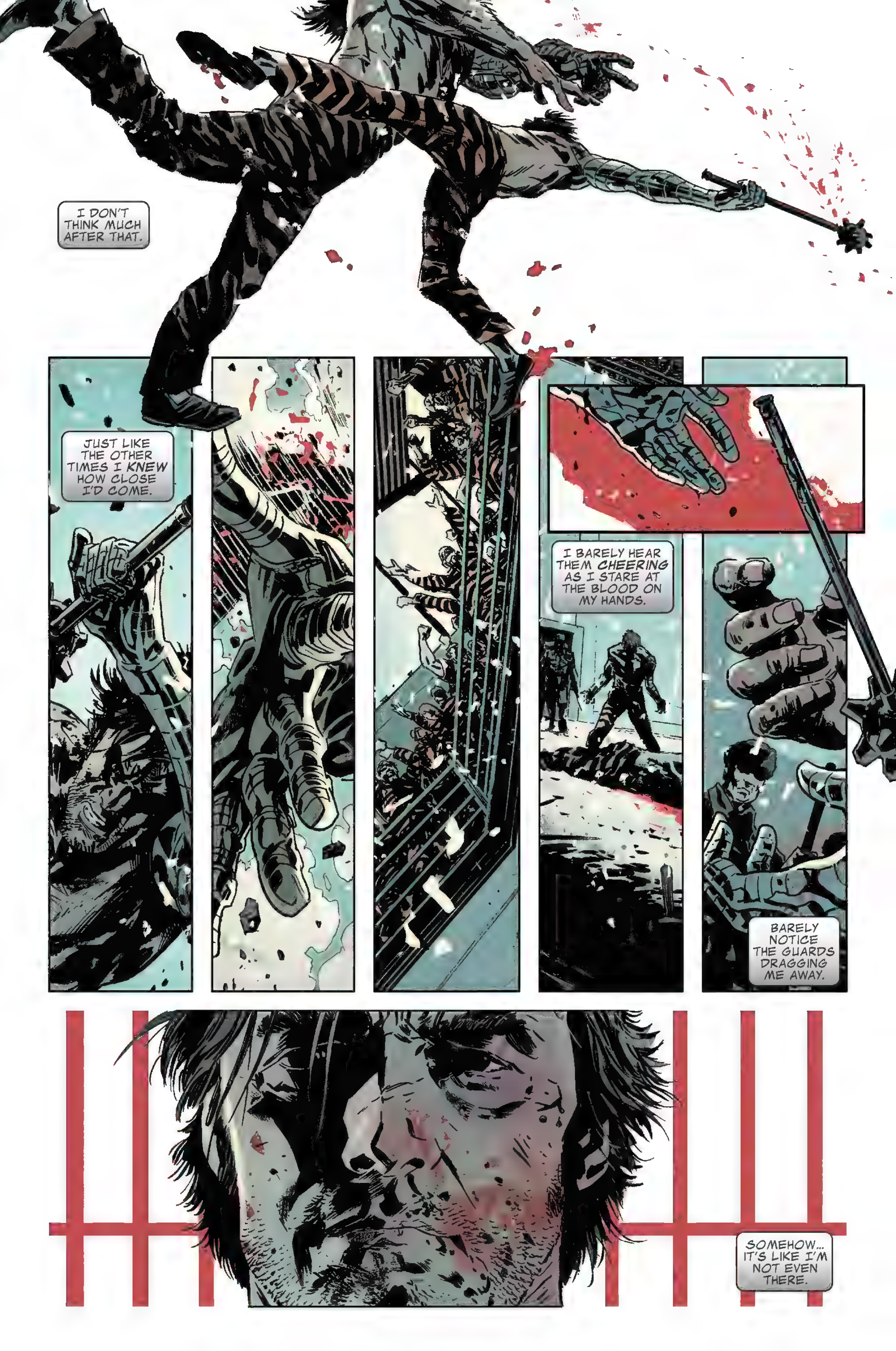

I'M AFRAID WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM, STEVE.
IT'S BLACK WIDOW. AFTER WHAT WE FOUND TONIGHT...
...SHE DISAPPEARED.
I JUST TURNED MY BACK FOR A MINUTE... AND POOF.
YES, I KNOW...I THINK SHE'S GOING ROGUE HERE.
YEAH, I'M SURE YOU DO... I TRY...
BUT I'M NOT SURE WHAT I CAN DO...
THIS IS HER CITY, AFTER ALL.
OKAY, GIRL...
...DO WHAT YOU HAVE TO...

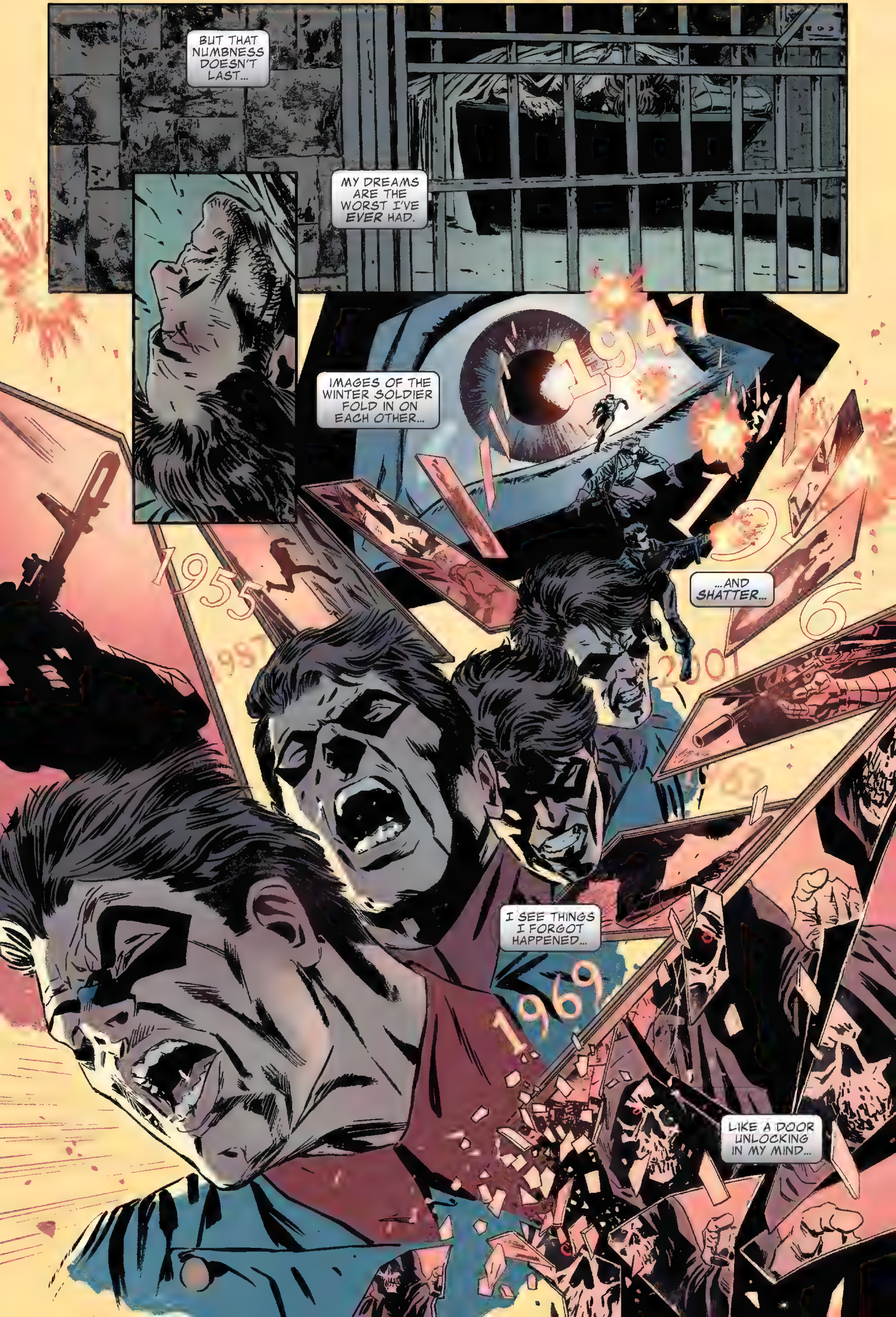

Siberia
IF THERE'S ANYTHING THAT MAKES THE NOISE OF PRISON SEEM QUIET...
ПОВИНУЙТЕСЬ ВСЕМ ПРАВИЛАМ ИЛИ УМРИТЕСЬ
GULAG
...IT'S THE CHEERING OF HUNDREDS OF INMATES.
ALL DYING TO SEE BULLSKI HERE GET HIS BIG HANDS ON ME...
...AND TEAR ME LIMB FROM LIMB.
AND BULLSKI CLEARLY WANTS TO GIVE THEM WHAT THEY'RE SCREAMING FOR.
AS I DODGE HIS FIRST ATTACK...
I SPOT NIKO CONSTANTIN UP IN THE CROWD, WITH HIS WOLF SPIDER GANG.
HE HASN'T CHANGED MUCH IN ALL THESE YEARS.
NIKO'S NOT CHEERING FOR EITHER SIDE OF THIS FIGHT.
HE'S JUST WATCHING.

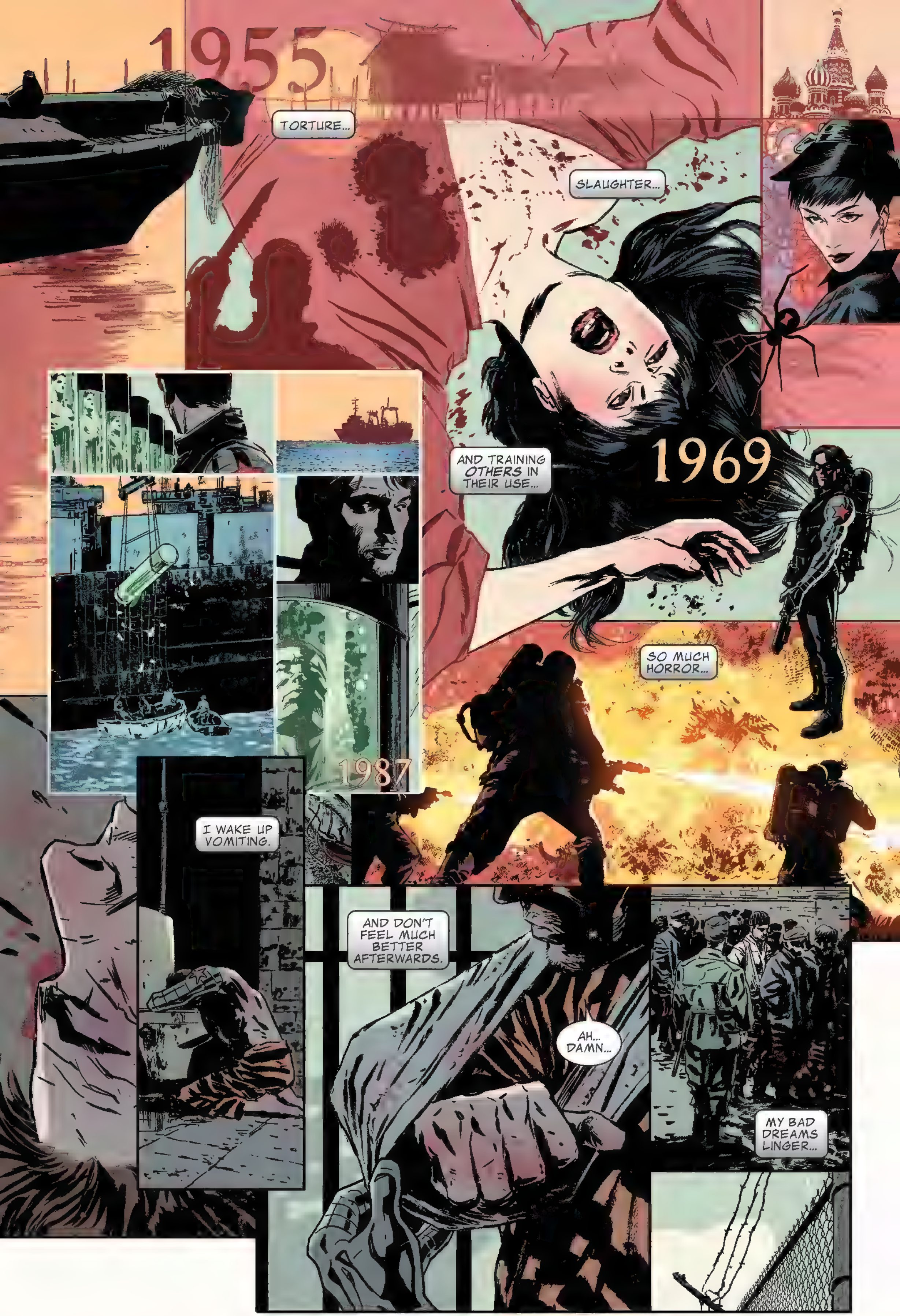

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT THAT DISTURBS ME EVEN MORE.
SO DID YOU DO YOUR JOB WELL, ALEXI...?
HE DOESN'T FRIGHTEN, THAT MUCH HAS NOT CHANGED...
BUT HE DOES BELIEVE YOU MEAN TO KILL HIM.
HE'S NOT MISTAKEN. HIS TIMING IS JUST WRONG.
WE DON'T MEAN TO KILL HIM YET.
YOU MAY NOT HAVE A CHOICE IN THE MATTER, WARDEN...

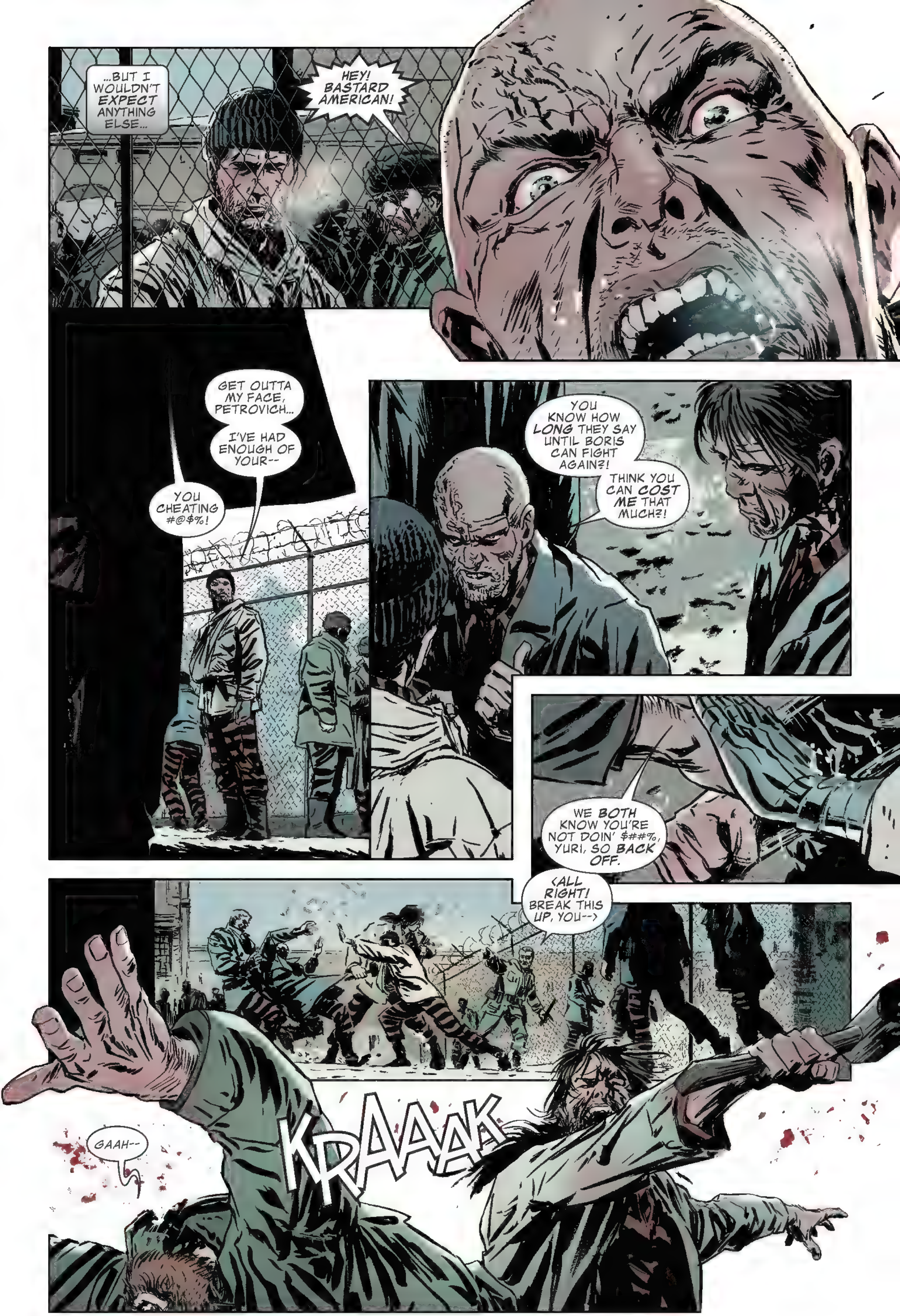

...BULLSKI IS A *MONSTER*.
IT'S ALL UNDER *CONTROL*, COMRADE. YOU WILL SEE.
WHY DO THEY *DO THIS* TO BARNES?
THE *"WHY"* OF IT IS *ABOVE* MY LEVEL. ALL I KNOW IS...
...THE COLONEL NEEDS THE *WINTER SOLDIER* BROKEN DOWN.
WE'RE TO MAKE HIM GO *"SAVAGE"* HE SAID.
AH, *HERE* IT IS...YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS *THIS* PART.
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO...?

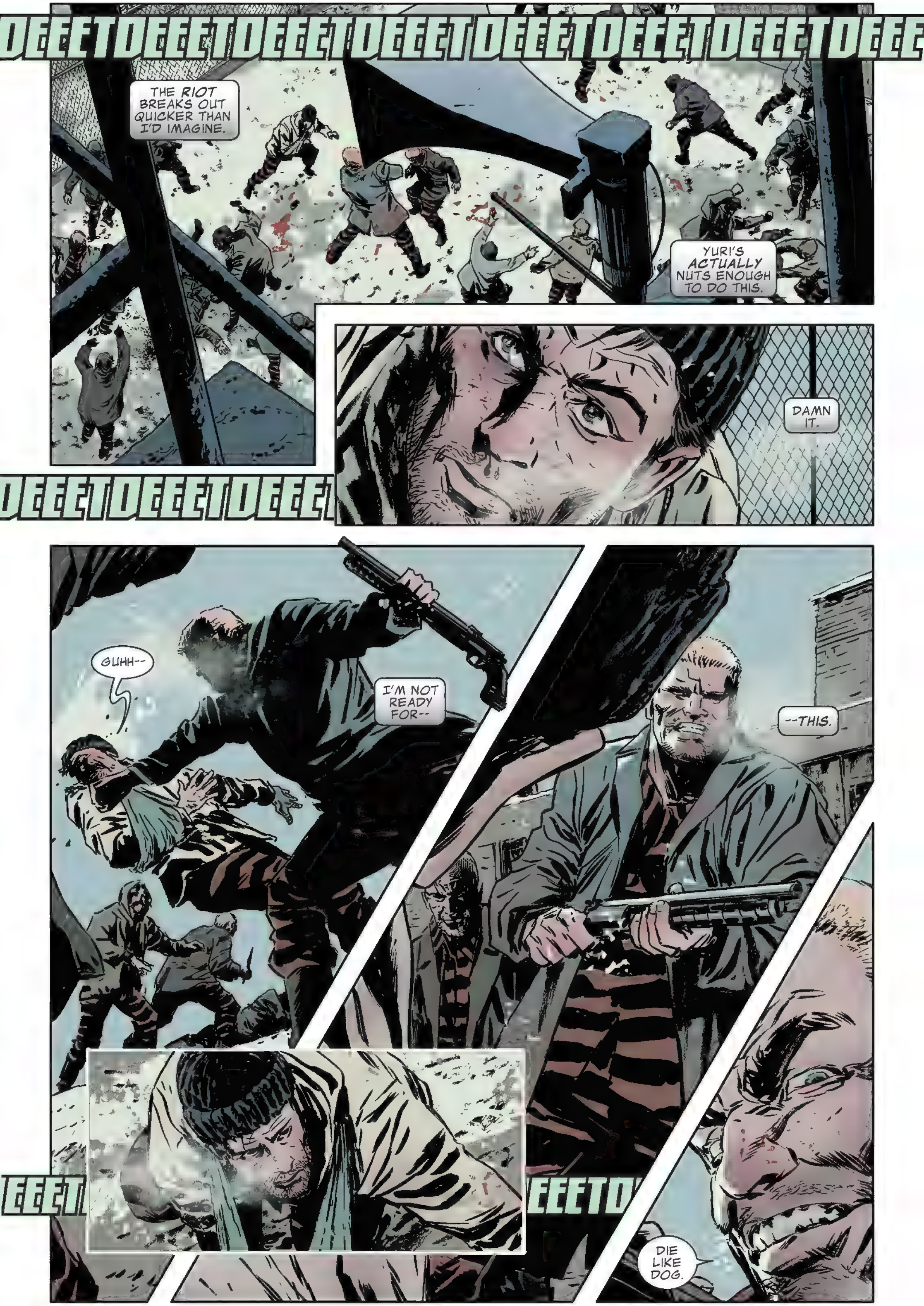

SHOULDER'S NEARLY OUT OF THE SOCKET.
PAIN SCREAMING.
I'M ABOUT TO GET KILLED.
I'VE THOUGHT THAT ABOUT FOUR TIMES IN MY LIFE.
'CAUSE I'M A COCKY SON OF A BITCH.
I ALWAYS OVERPLAY MY ODDS.
BUT THIS GUY... HAS ME...
UNTIL I SEE THE GUARDS...
...THROWING WEAPONS DOWN...
AND I REMEMBER...
...THIS GAME HAS NO RULES.

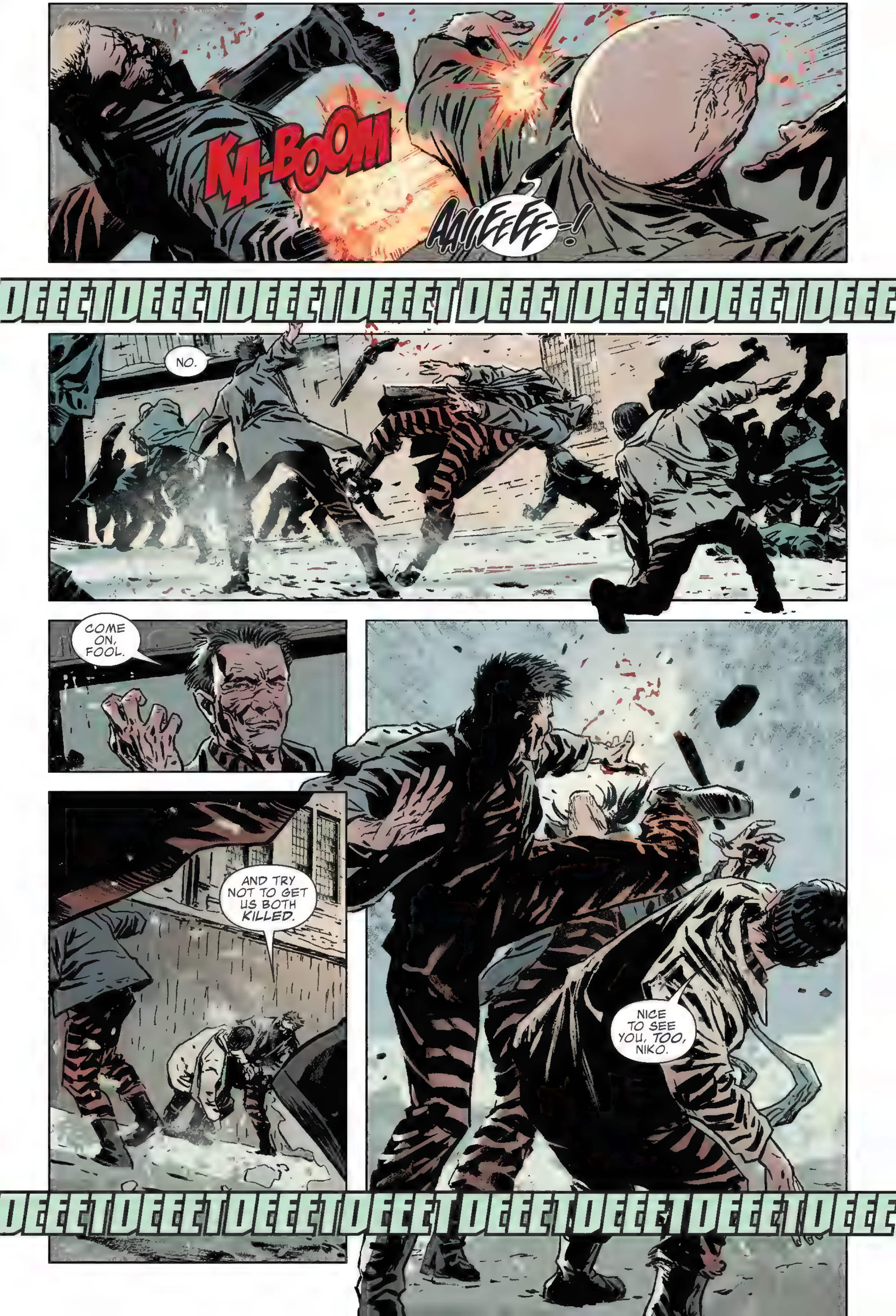

I DON'T THINK MUCH AFTER THAT.
JUST LIKE THE OTHER TIMES I KNEW HOW CLOSE I'D COME.
I BARELY HEAR THEM CHEERING AS I STARE AT THE BLOOD ON MY HANDS.
BARELY NOTICE THE GUARDS DRAGGING ME AWAY.
SOMEHOW... IT'S LIKE I'M NOT EVEN THERE.

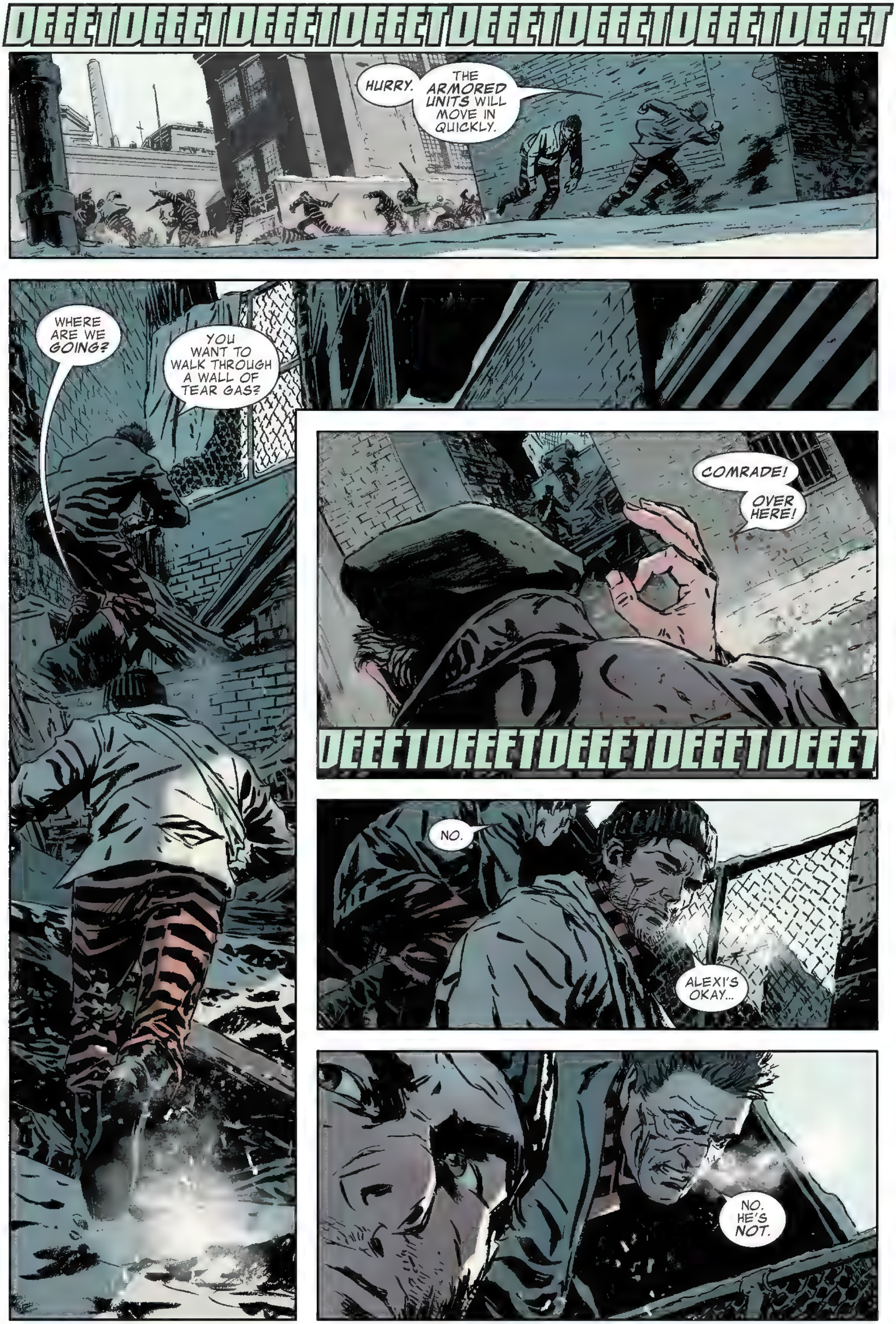

BUT THAT NUMBNESS DOESN'T LAST...
MY DREAMS ARE THE WORST I'VE EVER HAD.
IMAGES OF THE WINTER SOLDIER FOLD IN ON EACH OTHER...
1947
...AND SHATTER...
1955
1969
I SEE THINGS I FORGOT HAPPENED...
LIKE A DOOR UNLOCKING IN MY MIND...

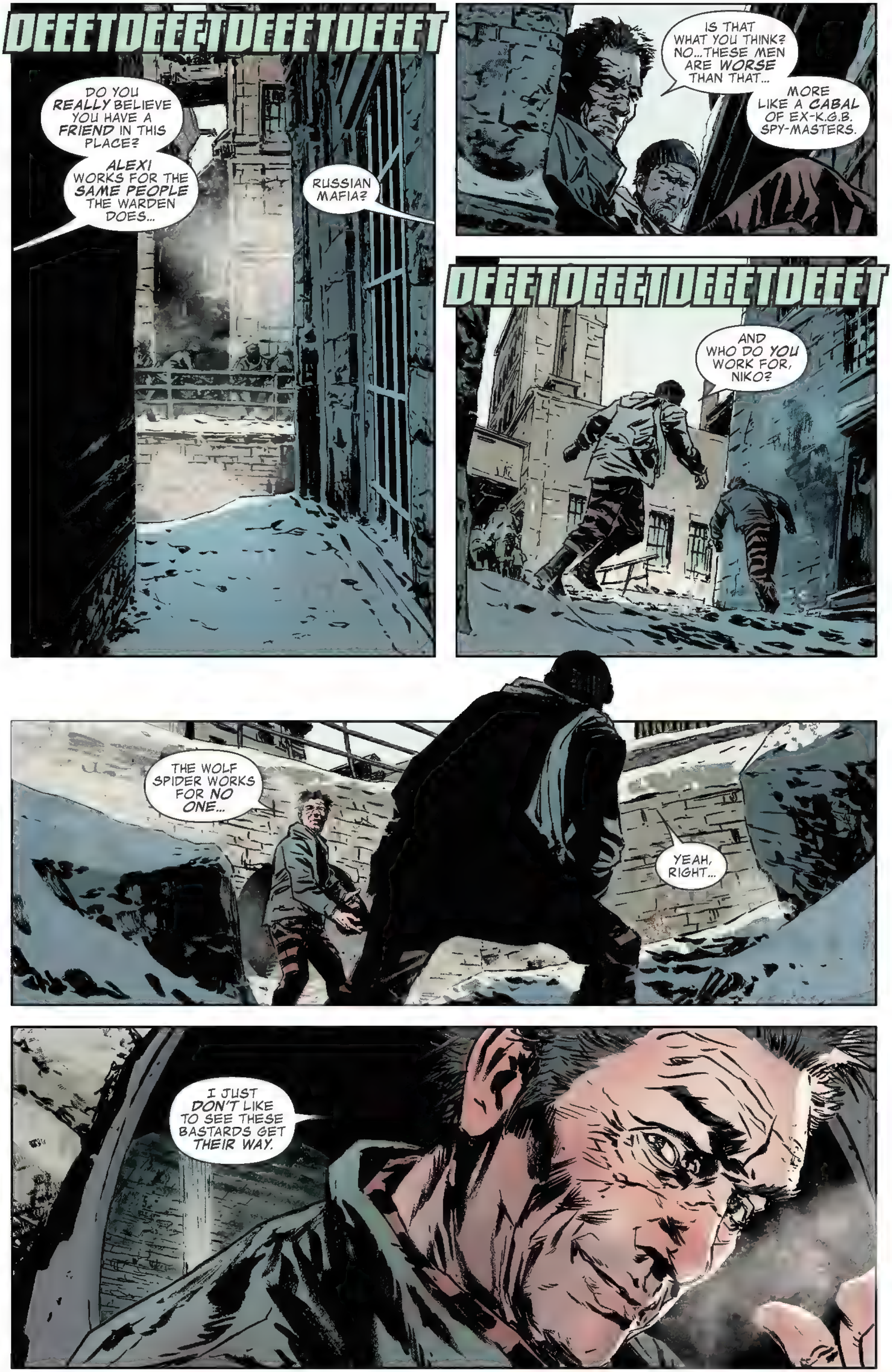

1955
TORTURE...
SLAUGHTER...
AND TRAINING *OTHERS* IN THEIR USE...
1969
SO MUCH HORROR...
1987
I WAKE UP VOMITING.
AND DON'T FEEL MUCH BETTER AFTERWARDS.
AH... DAMN...
MY BAD DREAMS LINGER...

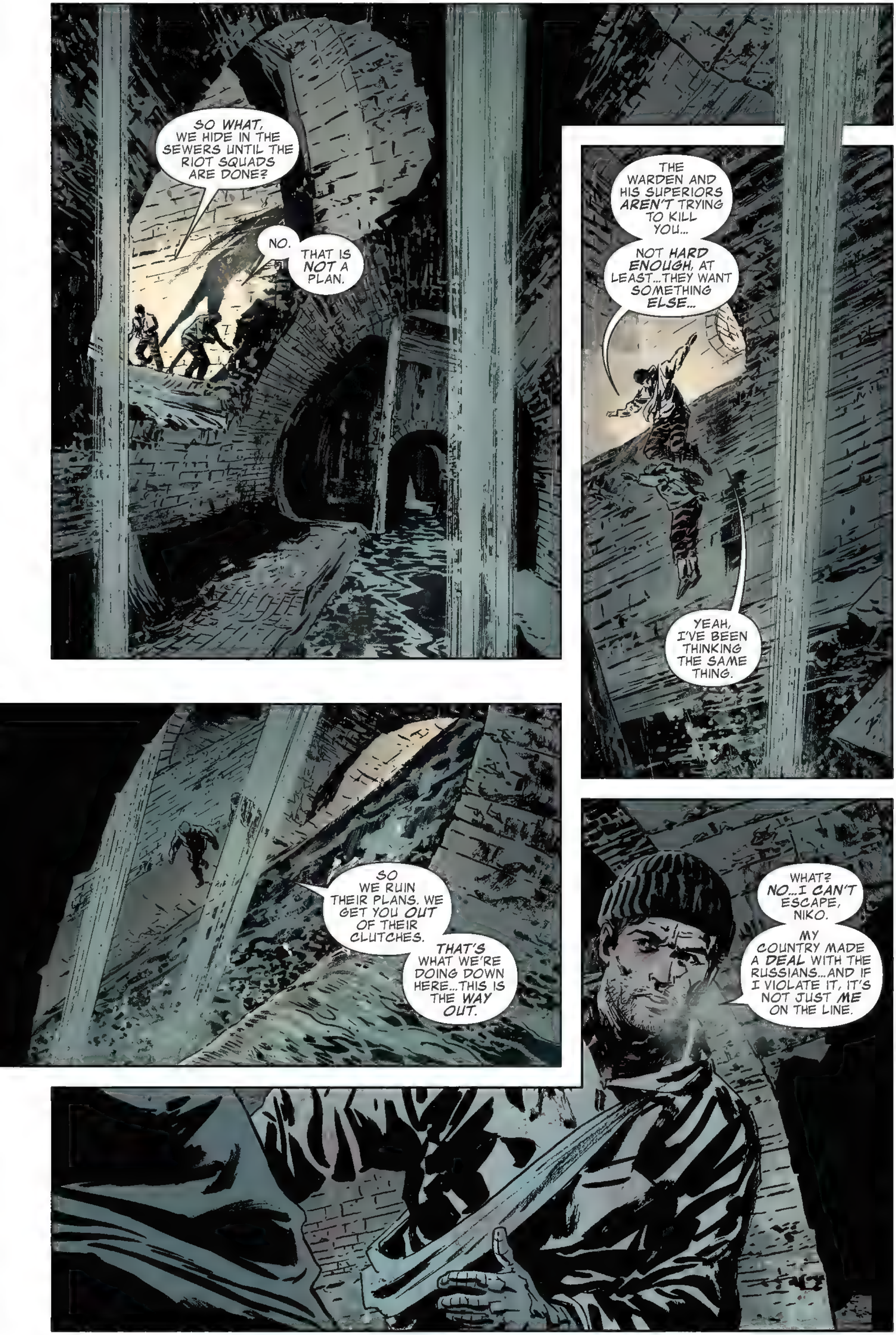

...BUT I WOULDN'T EXPECT ANYTHING ELSE...
HEY! BASTARD AMERICAN!
GET OUTTA MY FACE, PETROVICH...
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR--
YOU CHEATING #@$%!
YOU KNOW HOW LONG THEY SAY UNTIL BORIS CAN FIGHT AGAIN?!
THINK YOU CAN COST ME THAT MUCH?!
WE BOTH KNOW YOU'RE NOT DOIN' $##%, YURI, SO BACK OFF.
<ALL RIGHT! BREAK THIS UP, YOU-->
KRAAAK
GAAH--

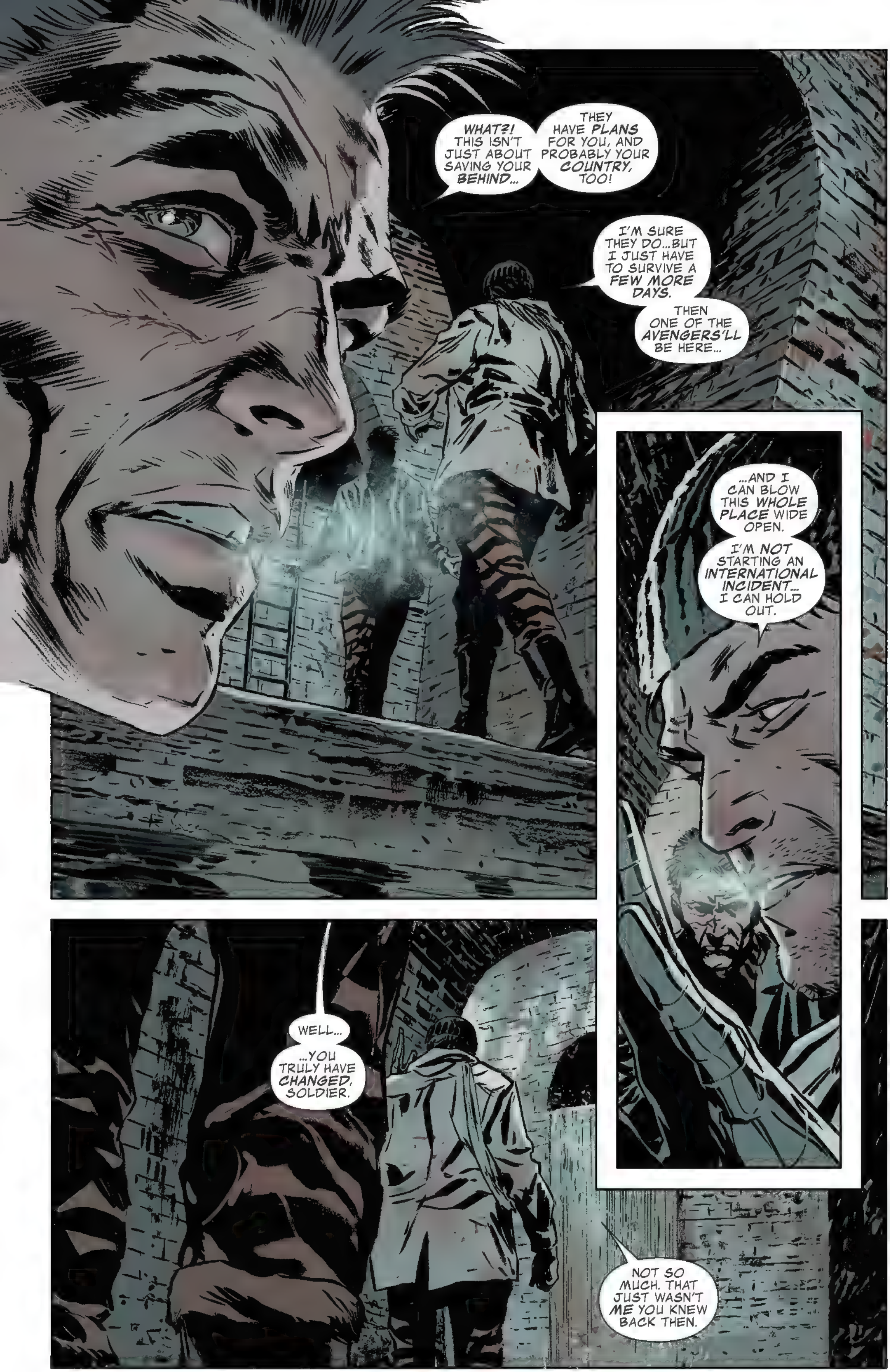

DEEETDEEETDEEETDEEETDEEETDEEETDEEETDEEE
THE RIOT BREAKS OUT QUICKER THAN I'D IMAGINE.
YURI'S ACTUALLY NUTS ENOUGH TO DO THIS.
DAMN IT.
DEEETDEEETDEEE
GUHH--
I'M NOT READY FOR--
--THIS.
EEET
EEETD
DIE LIKE DOG.

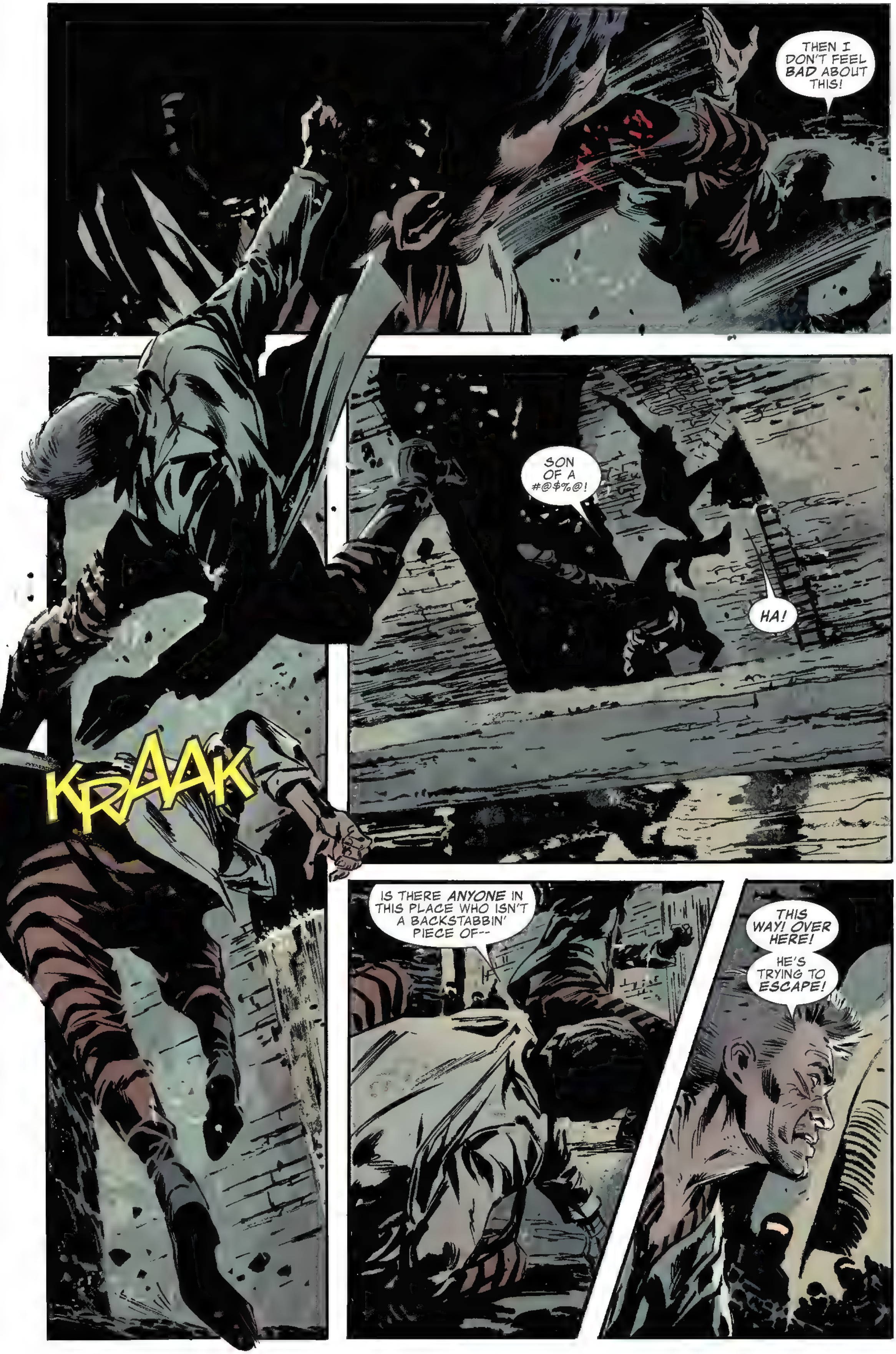

KA-BOOM
AAIIEEEE--!
DEEETDEEETDEEETDEEET DEEETDEEETDEEETDEEE
NO.
COME ON, FOOL.
AND TRY NOT TO GET US BOTH *KILLED.*
NICE TO SEE YOU, *TOO,* NIKO.
DEEETDEEETDEEETDEEET DEEETDEEETDEEETDEEE

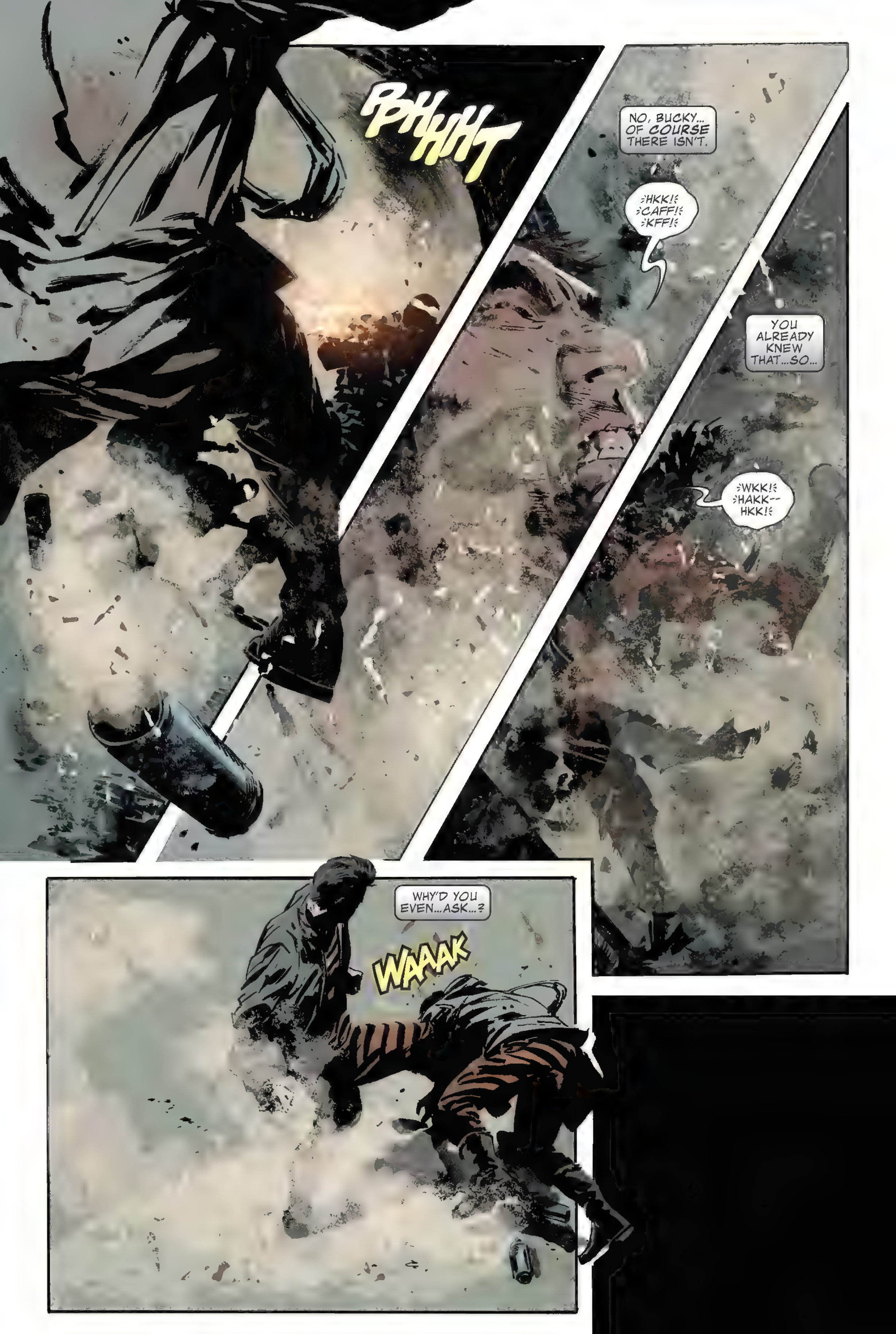

DEEETDEEETDEEETDEEETDEEETDEEETDEEETDEEET
HURRY.
THE ARMORED UNITS WILL MOVE IN QUICKLY.
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
YOU WANT TO WALK THROUGH A WALL OF TEAR GAS?
COMRADE!
OVER HERE!
DEEETDEEETDEEETDEEETDEEET
NO.
ALEXI'S OKAY...
NO. HE'S NOT.

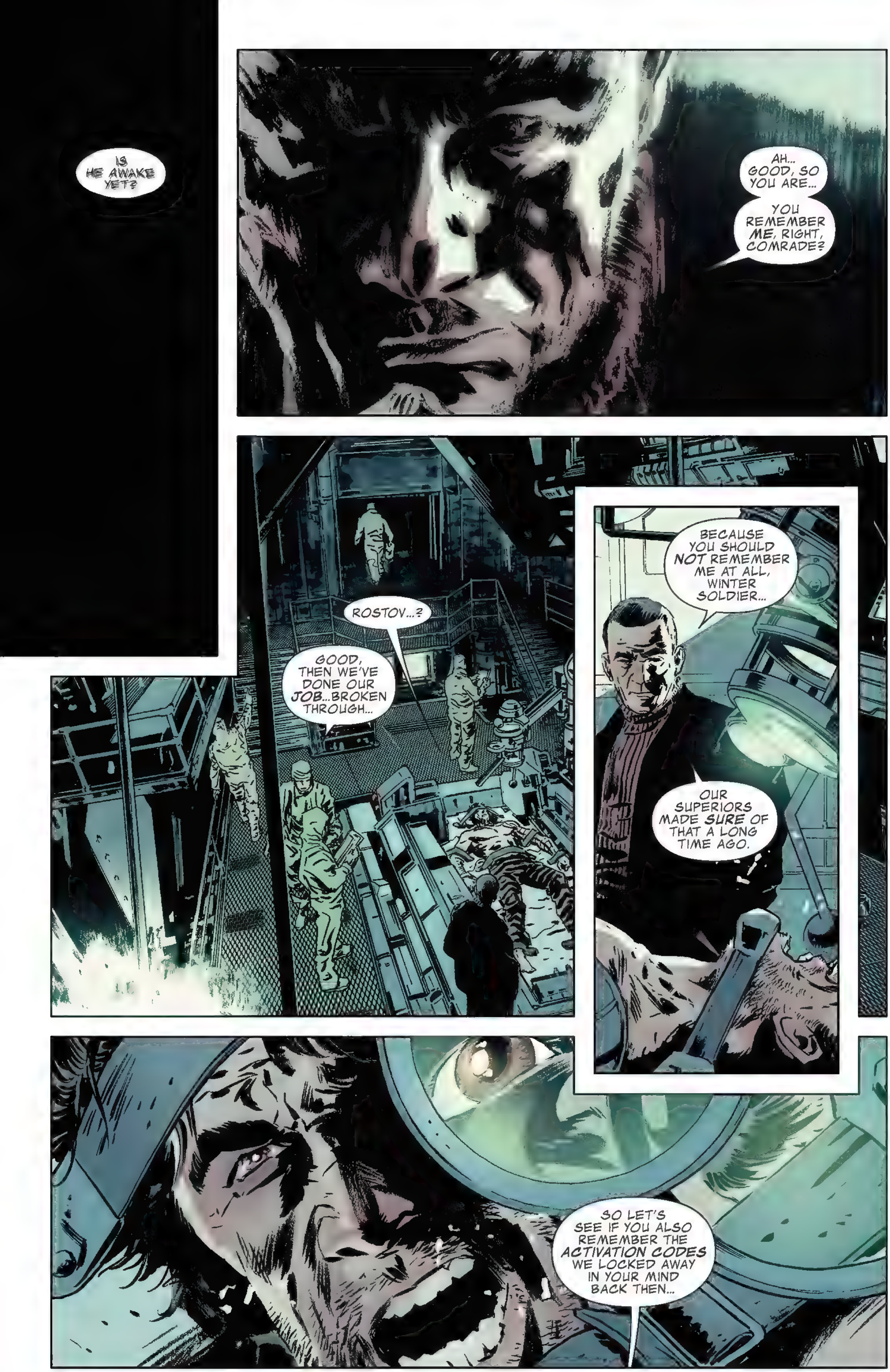

DEEETDEEETDEEETDEEET
DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THIS PLACE?
ALEXI WORKS FOR THE SAME PEOPLE THE WARDEN DOES...
RUSSIAN MAFIA?
IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK? NO...THESE MEN ARE WORSE THAN THAT...
MORE LIKE A CABAL OF EX-K.G.B. SPY-MASTERS.
DEEETDEEETDEEETDEEET
AND WHO DO YOU WORK FOR, NIKO?
THE WOLF SPIDER WORKS FOR NO ONE...
YEAH, RIGHT...
I JUST DON'T LIKE TO SEE THESE BASTARDS GET THEIR WAY.

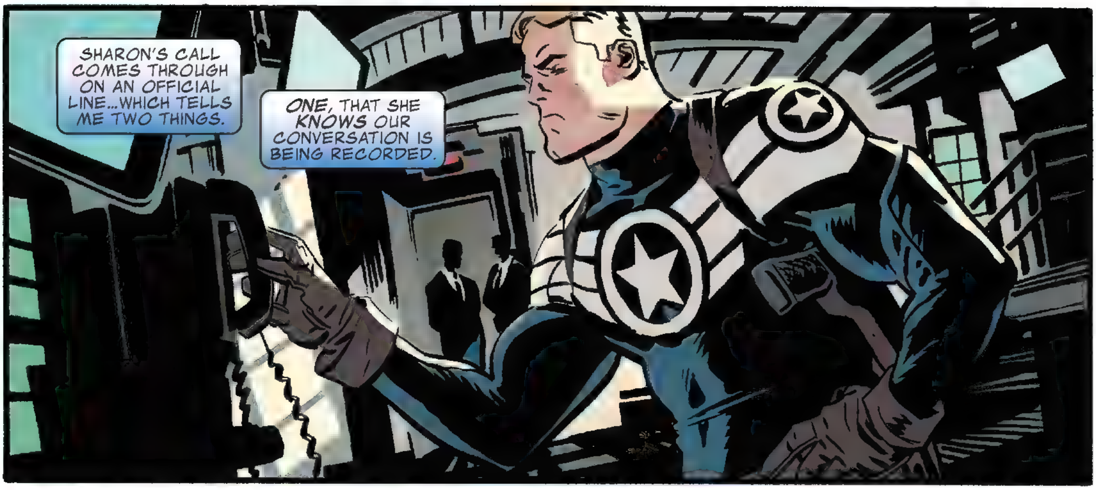

SO WHAT, WE HIDE IN THE SEWERS UNTIL THE RIOT SQUADS ARE DONE?
NO.
THAT IS NOT A PLAN.
THE WARDEN AND HIS SUPERIORS AREN'T TRYING TO KILL YOU...
NOT HARD ENOUGH, AT LEAST...THEY WANT SOMETHING ELSE...
YEAH, I'VE BEEN THINKING THE SAME THING.
SO WE RUIN THEIR PLANS. WE GET YOU OUT OF THEIR CLUTCHES.
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE DOING DOWN HERE...THIS IS THE WAY OUT.
WHAT? NO...I CAN'T ESCAPE, NIKO.
MY COUNTRY MADE A DEAL WITH THE RUSSIANS...AND IF I VIOLATE IT, IT'S NOT JUST ME ON THE LINE.


WHAT?! THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT SAVING YOUR BEHIND...
THEY HAVE PLANS FOR YOU, AND PROBABLY YOUR COUNTRY, TOO!
I'M SURE THEY DO...BUT I JUST HAVE TO SURVIVE A FEW MORE DAYS.
THEN ONE OF THE AVENGERS'LL BE HERE...
...AND I CAN BLOW THIS WHOLE PLACE WIDE OPEN.
I'M NOT STARTING AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT... I CAN HOLD OUT.
WELL...
...YOU TRULY HAVE CHANGED, SOLDIER.
NOT SO MUCH. THAT JUST WASN'T ME YOU KNEW BACK THEN.

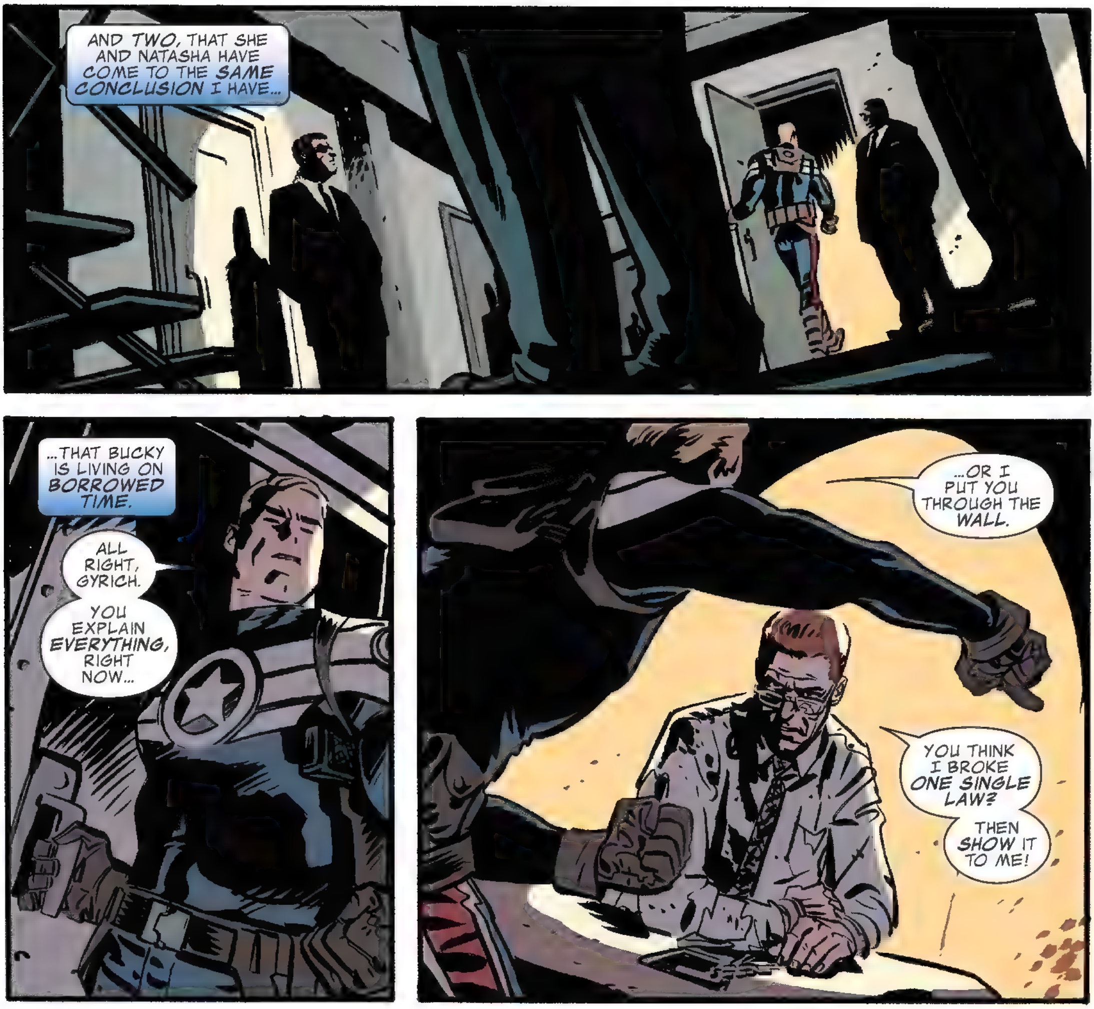

THEN I DON'T FEEL *BAD* ABOUT THIS!
KRAAK
SON OF A #@$%@!
HA!
IS THERE *ANYONE* IN THIS PLACE WHO ISN'T A BACKSTABBIN' PIECE OF--
THIS WAY! OVER HERE!
HE'S TRYING TO *ESCAPE!*

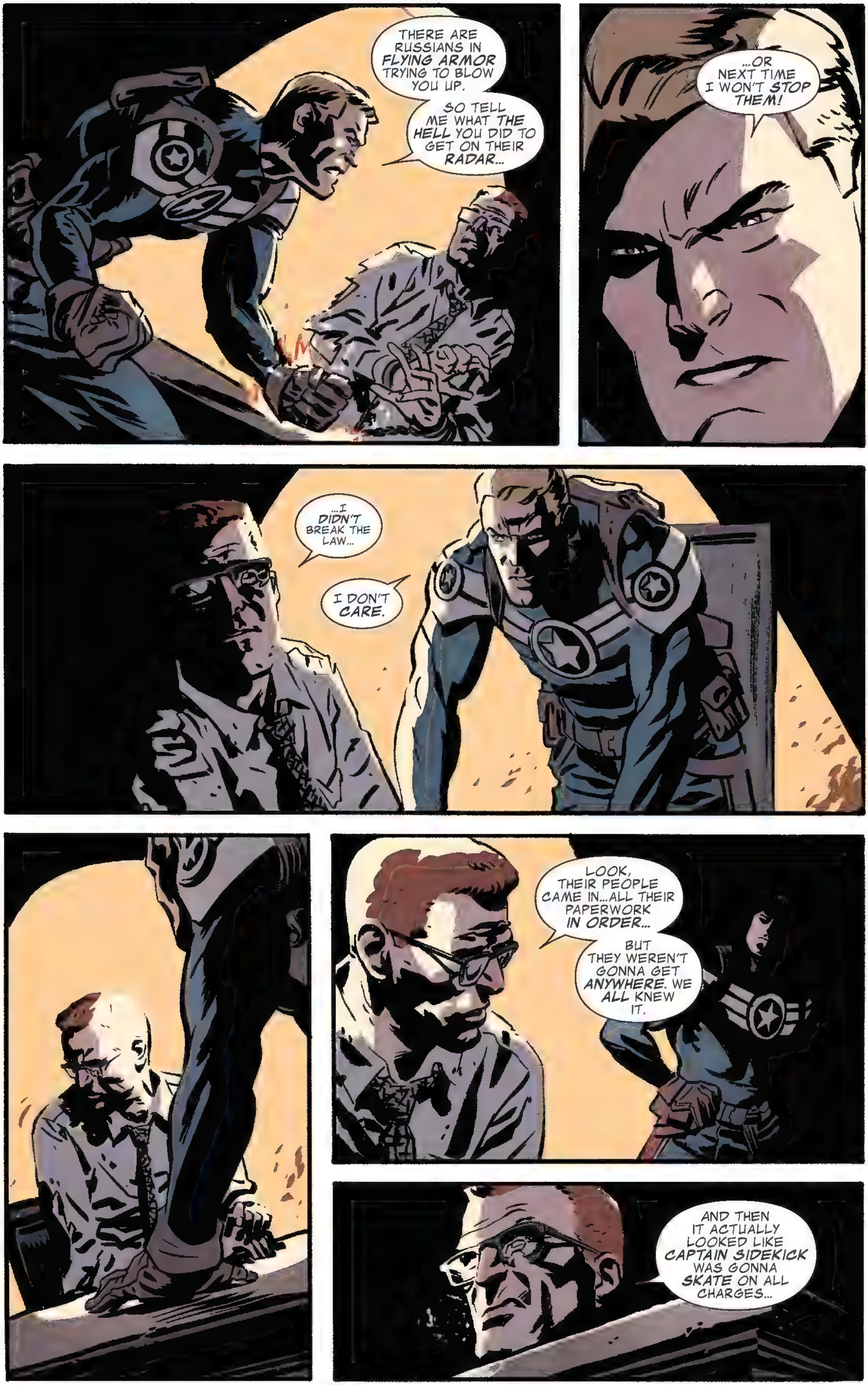

BHHHT
NO, BUCKY... OF COURSE THERE ISN'T.
HKK! CAFF! KFF!
YOU ALREADY KNEW THAT...SO...
WKK! HAKK-- HKK!
WHY'D YOU EVEN...ASK...?
WAAAK

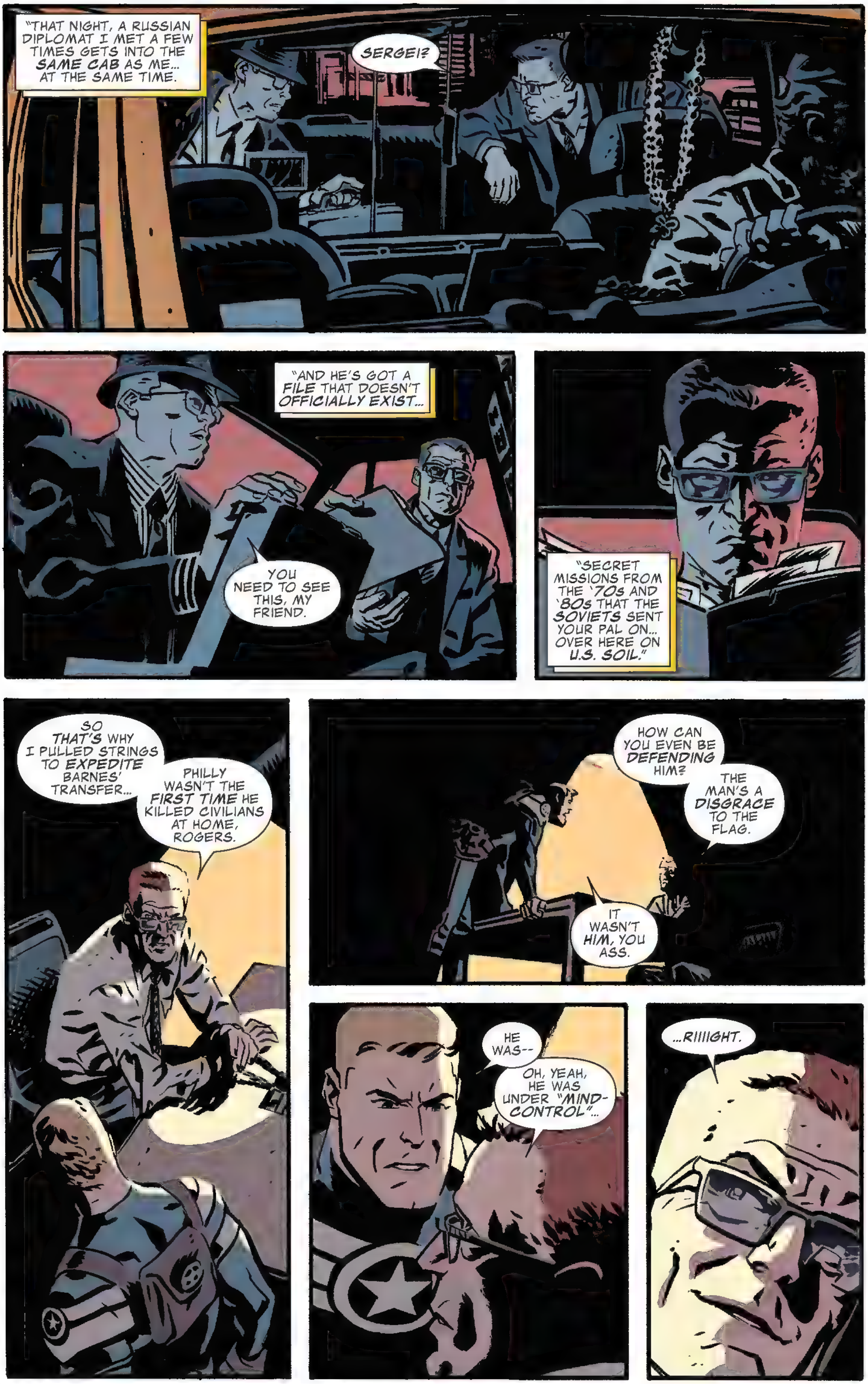

IS HE AWAKE YET?
AH... GOOD, SO YOU ARE...
YOU REMEMBER ME, RIGHT, COMRADE?
ROSTOV...?
GOOD, THEN WE'VE DONE OUR JOB...BROKEN THROUGH...
BECAUSE YOU SHOULD NOT REMEMBER ME AT ALL, WINTER SOLDIER...
OUR SUPERIORS MADE SURE OF THAT A LONG TIME AGO.
SO LET'S SEE IF YOU ALSO REMEMBER THE ACTIVATION CODES WE LOCKED AWAY IN YOUR MIND BACK THEN...

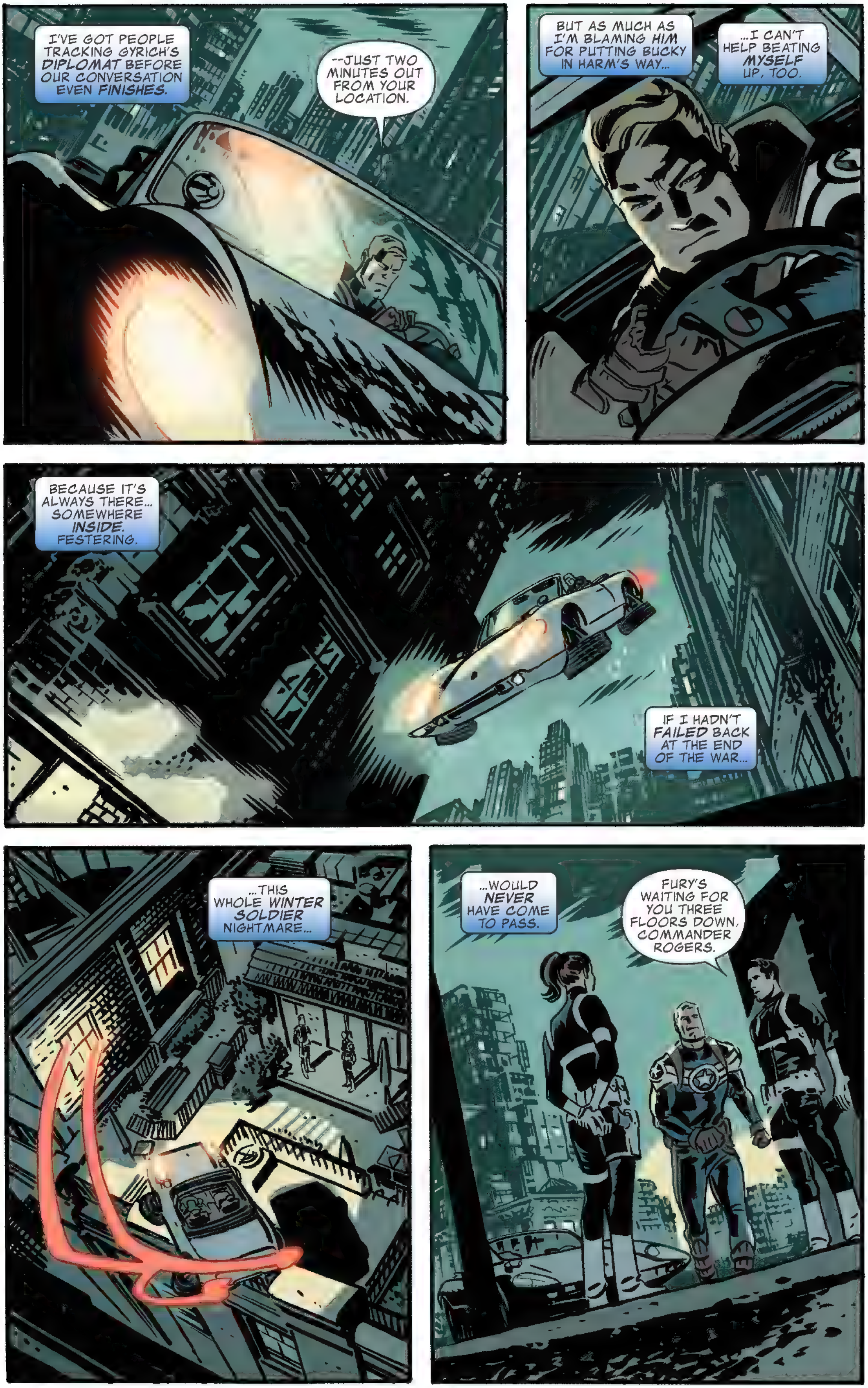

SHARON'S CALL COMES THROUGH ON AN OFFICIAL LINE...WHICH TELLS ME TWO THINGS.
ONE, THAT SHE KNOWS OUR CONVERSATION IS BEING RECORDED.

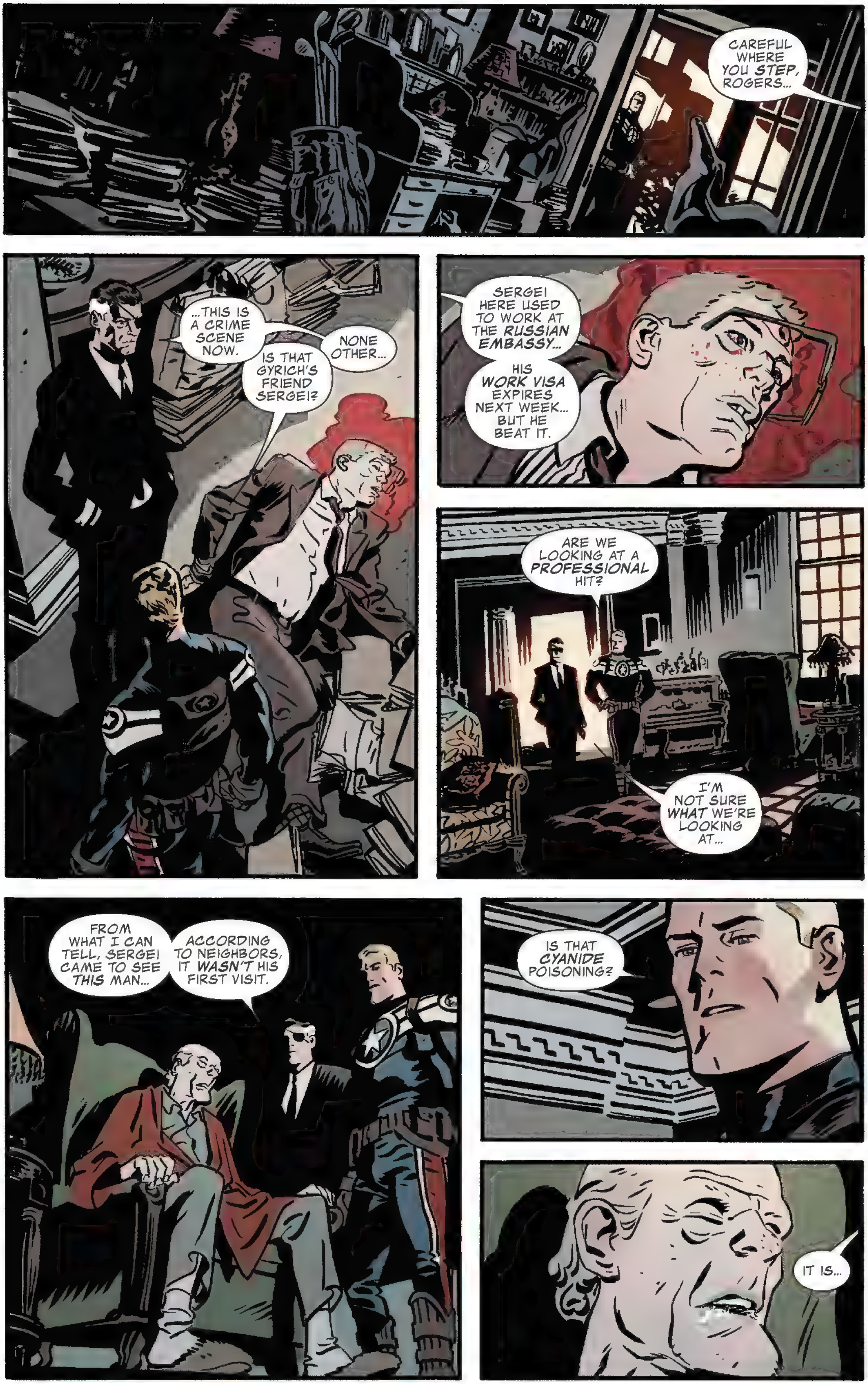
SUPER-SOLDIER

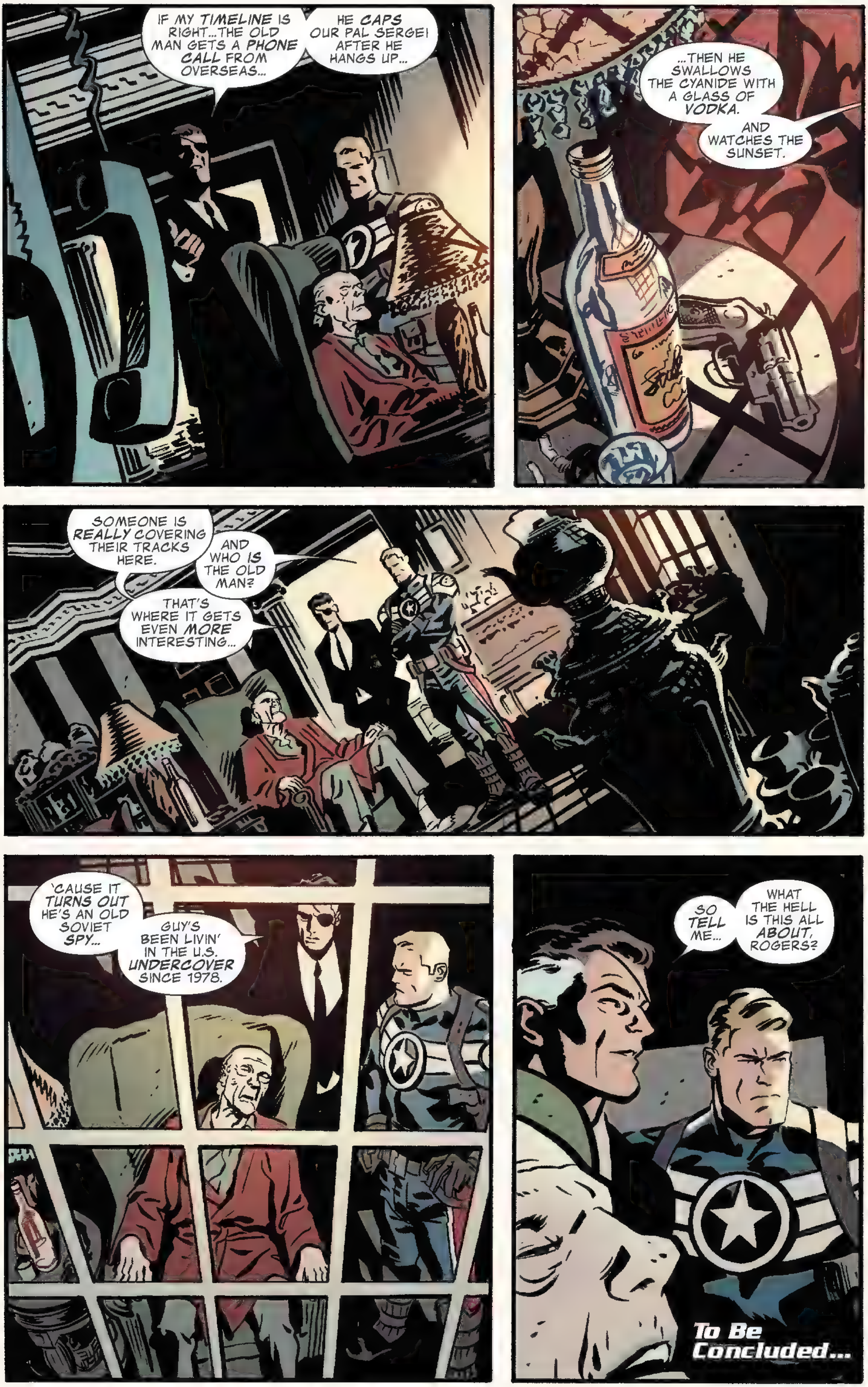

AND TWO, THAT SHE AND NATASHA HAVE COME TO THE SAME CONCLUSION I HAVE...
...THAT BUCKY IS LIVING ON BORROWED TIME.
ALL RIGHT, GYRICH.
YOU EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, RIGHT NOW...
...OR I PUT YOU THROUGH THE WALL.
YOU THINK I BROKE ONE SINGLE LAW?
THEN SHOW IT TO ME!


THERE ARE RUSSIANS IN FLYING ARMOR TRYING TO BLOW YOU UP.
SO TELL ME WHAT THE HELL YOU DID TO GET ON THEIR RADAR...
...OR NEXT TIME I WON'T STOP THEM!
...I DIDN'T BREAK THE LAW...
I DON'T CARE.
LOOK, THEIR PEOPLE CAME IN...ALL THEIR PAPERWORK IN ORDER...
BUT THEY WEREN'T GONNA GET ANYWHERE. WE ALL KNEW IT.
AND THEN IT ACTUALLY LOOKED LIKE CAPTAIN SIDEKICK WAS GONNA SKATE ON ALL CHARGES...


"THAT NIGHT, A RUSSIAN DIPLOMAT I MET A FEW TIMES GETS INTO THE SAME CAB AS ME... AT THE SAME TIME.
SERGEI?
"AND HE'S GOT A FILE THAT DOESN'T OFFICIALLY EXIST...
YOU NEED TO SEE THIS, MY FRIEND.
"SECRET MISSIONS FROM THE '70s AND '80s THAT THE SOVIETS SENT YOUR PAL ON... OVER HERE ON U.S. SOIL."
SO THAT'S WHY I PULLED STRINGS TO EXPEDITE BARNES' TRANSFER...
PHILLY WASN'T THE FIRST TIME HE KILLED CIVILIANS AT HOME, ROGERS.
HOW CAN YOU EVEN BE DEFENDING HIM?
THE MAN'S A DISGRACE TO THE FLAG.
IT WASN'T HIM, YOU ASS.
HE WAS--
OH, YEAH, HE WAS UNDER "MIND-CONTROL"...
...RIIIIGHT.


I'VE GOT PEOPLE TRACKING GYRICH'S *DIPLOMAT* BEFORE OUR CONVERSATION EVEN *FINISHES.*
--JUST TWO MINUTES OUT FROM YOUR LOCATION.
BUT AS MUCH AS I'M BLAMING *HIM* FOR PUTTING BUCKY IN HARM'S WAY...
...I CAN'T HELP BEATING *MYSELF* UP, TOO.
BECAUSE IT'S ALWAYS THERE... SOMEWHERE *INSIDE.* FESTERING.
IF I HADN'T *FAILED* BACK AT THE END OF THE WAR...
...THIS WHOLE *WINTER SOLDIER* NIGHTMARE...
...WOULD *NEVER* HAVE COME TO PASS.
FURY'S WAITING FOR YOU THREE FLOORS DOWN, COMMANDER ROGERS.


CAREFUL WHERE YOU *STEP*, ROGERS...
...THIS IS A CRIME SCENE NOW.
IS THAT GYRICH'S FRIEND SERGEI?
NONE OTHER...
SERGEI HERE USED TO WORK AT THE *RUSSIAN EMBASSY*...
HIS *WORK VISA* EXPIRES NEXT WEEK... BUT HE BEAT IT.
ARE WE LOOKING AT A *PROFESSIONAL* HIT?
I'M NOT SURE *WHAT* WE'RE LOOKING AT...
FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, SERGEI CAME TO SEE *THIS* MAN...
ACCORDING TO NEIGHBORS, IT *WASN'T* HIS FIRST VISIT.
IS THAT *CYANIDE* POISONING?
IT IS...


IF MY TIMELINE IS RIGHT...THE OLD MAN GETS A PHONE CALL FROM OVERSEAS...
HE CAPS OUR PAL SERGEI AFTER HE HANGS UP...
...THEN HE SWALLOWS THE CYANIDE WITH A GLASS OF VODKA.
AND WATCHES THE SUNSET.
SOMEONE IS REALLY COVERING THEIR TRACKS HERE.
AND WHO IS THE OLD MAN?
THAT'S WHERE IT GETS EVEN MORE INTERESTING...
'CAUSE IT TURNS OUT HE'S AN OLD SOVIET SPY...
GUY'S BEEN LIVIN' IN THE U.S. UNDERCOVER SINCE 1978.
SO TELL ME...
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS ALL ABOUT, ROGERS?
To Be Concluded...

MARVEL
619
CAPTAIN AMERICA
BRUBAKER
GUICE
SAMNEE
BREITWEISER
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CLASSIFIED

PROFILE #: 12031941
REAL NAME: James Buchanan Barnes
AKA: Captain America

After the apparent murder of Steve Rogers, the former Captain America, Cap's partner from WWII, James "Bucky" Barnes, took on Steve's mantle and his mission. Even now that Steve Rogers has returned from the grave, Bucky continues to wield the shield as Captain America.

Now Bucky finds himself condemned to a brutal Russian gulag for his crimes as the brainwashed Russian assassin, The Winter Soldier, with nothing but former enemies for company. Bucky is tossed into a series of gladiator fights against the worst of the gulag's residents!

After defeating the former Titanium Man in the arena, a prison riot breaks out and Bucky is betrayed by another former KGB comrade Niko Constantin, the Wolf Spider, to the gulag guards. Bucky wakes up in shackles and under the control of Colonel Rostov, who is the man behind Bucky's grueling imprisonment!

Black Widow and Sharon Carter have gone to Russia to unearth the truth about Bucky's imprisonment, but the Widow has gone rogue to find Bucky on her own terms...

Back in America, Steve Rogers chases down a lead after grilling government agent Henry Gyrich about the Titanium Man who attacked them both. Meeting up with Nick Fury, the trail seems to go cold as Gyrich's Russian contact is found dead...along with the Russian sleeper agent who killed him...

GULAG part 4

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Alan Fine

Captain America created by Joe Simon and Jack Kirby

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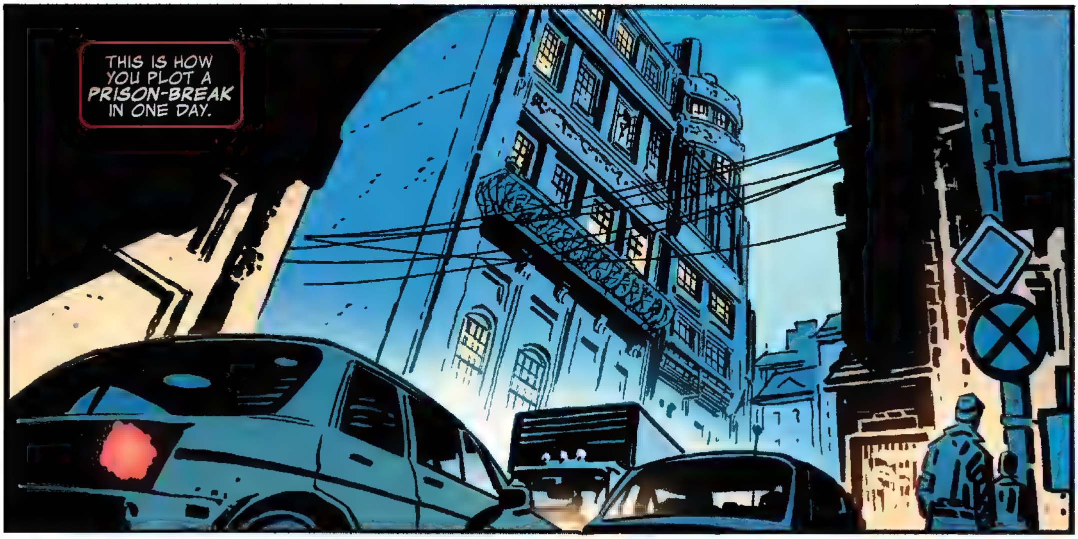
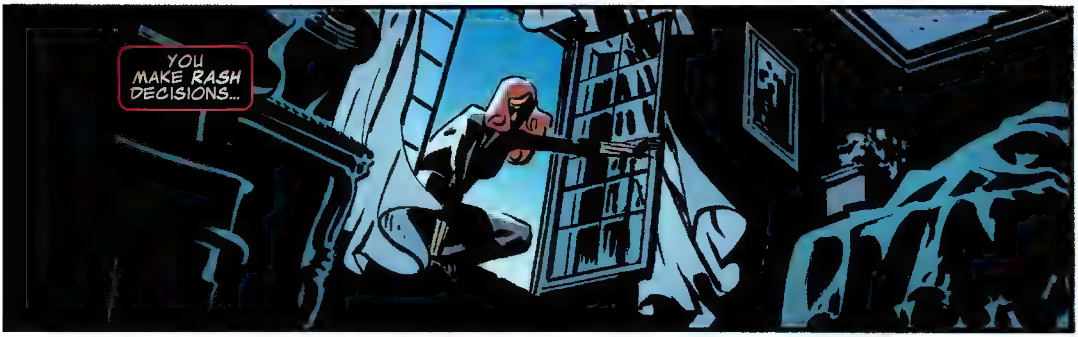
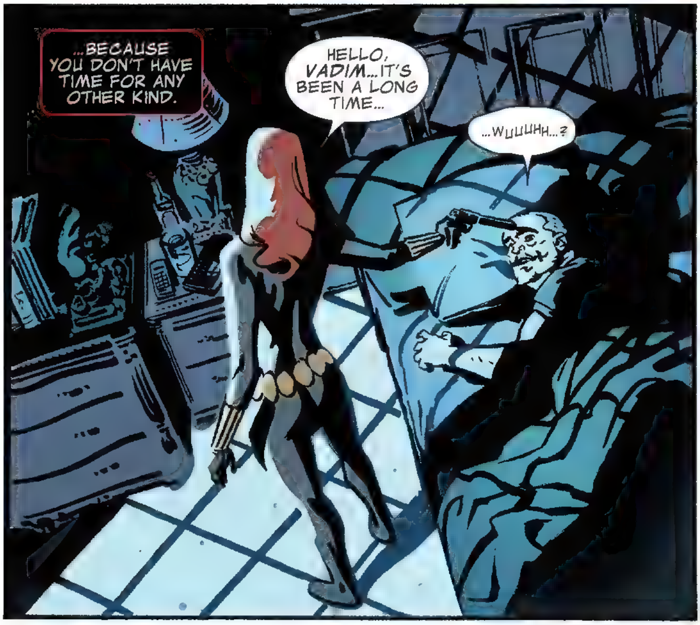
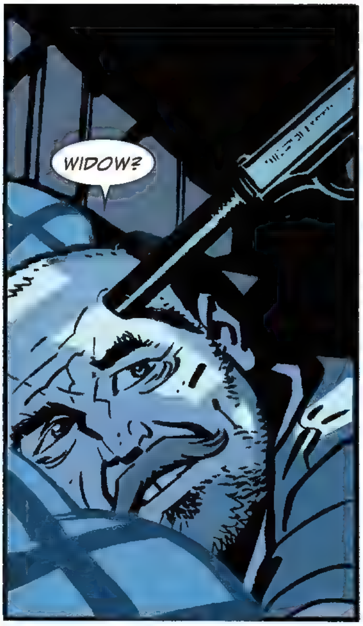
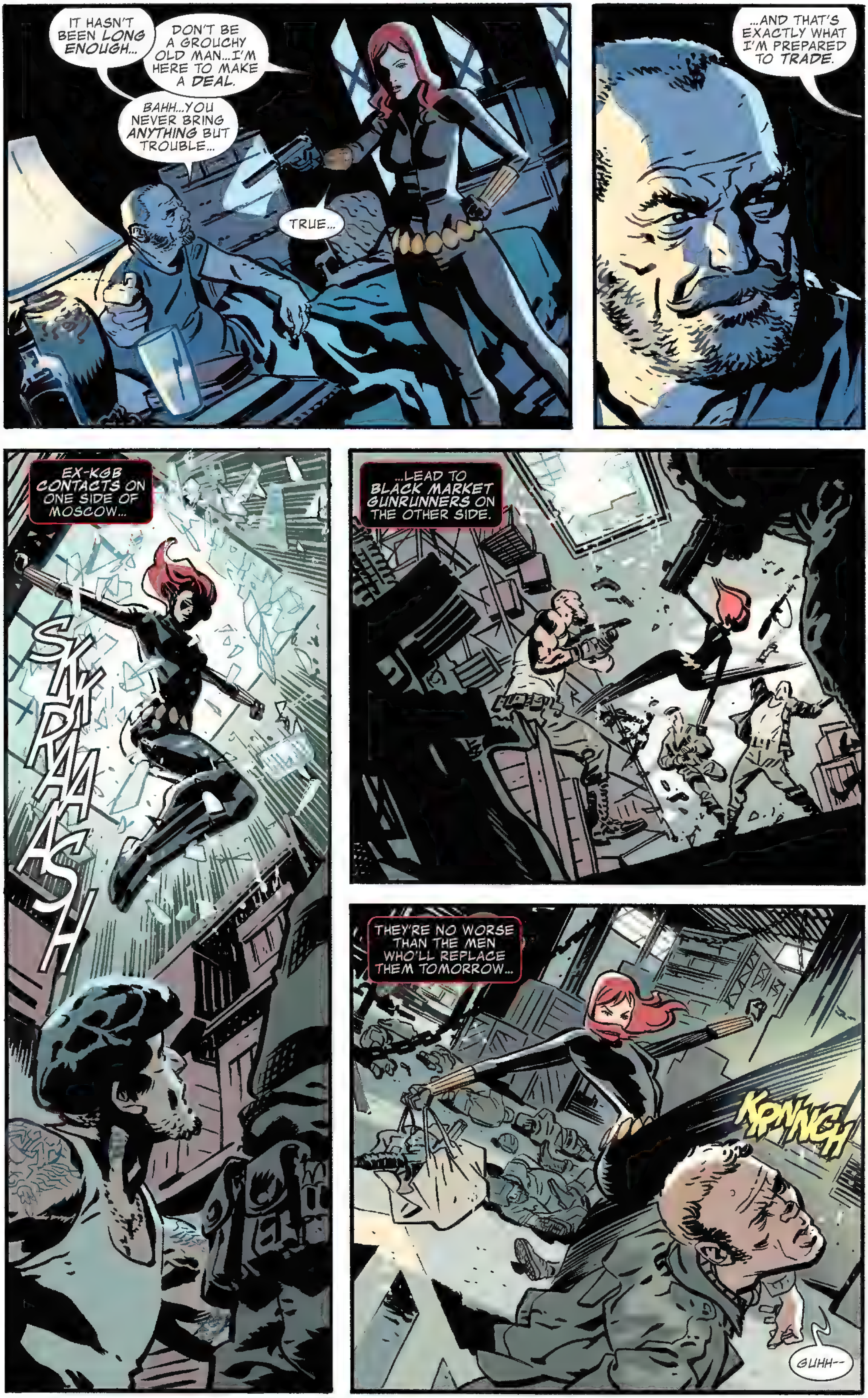

THIS IS HOW YOU PLOT A PRISON-BREAK IN ONE DAY.

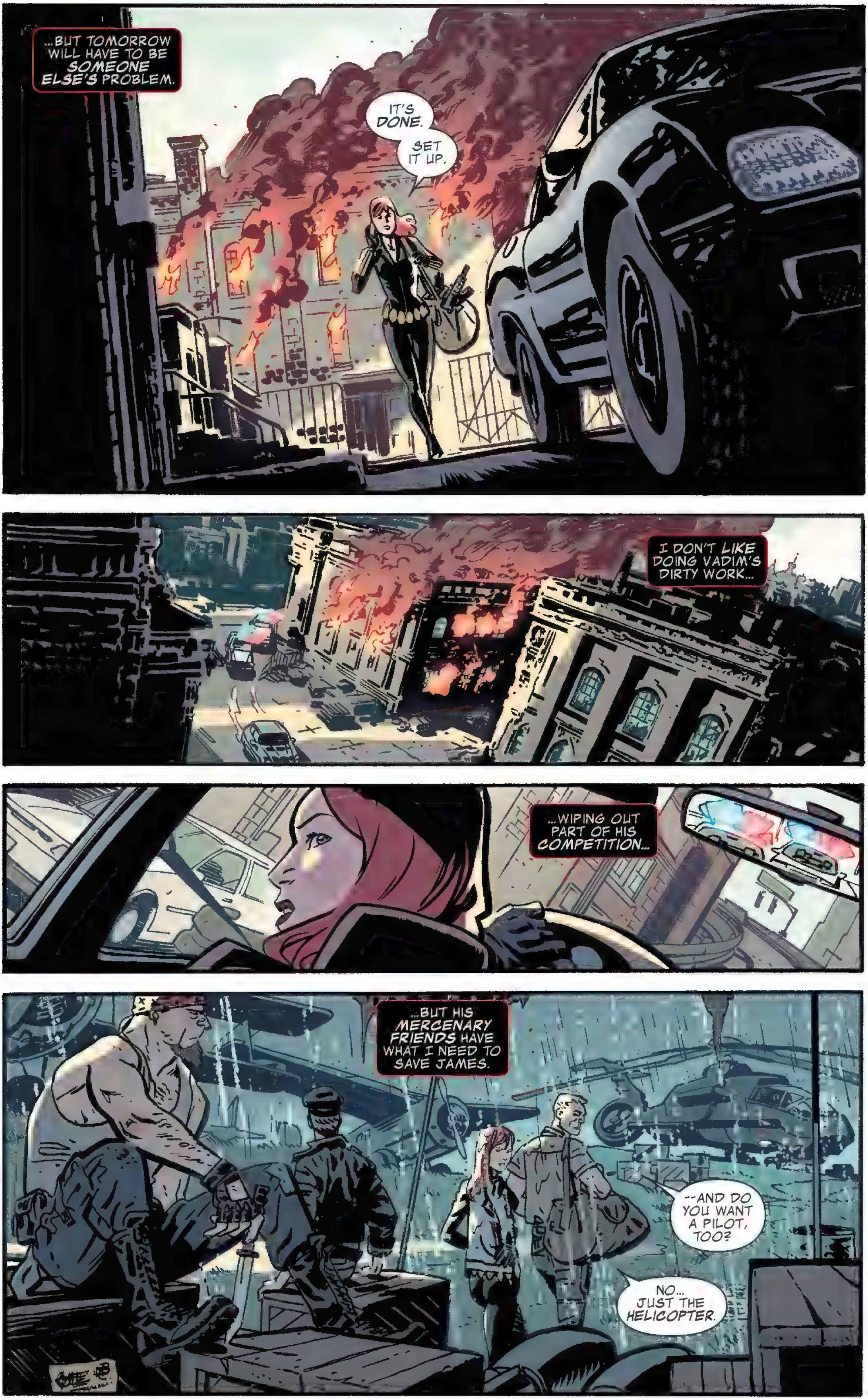
BLACK WIDOW

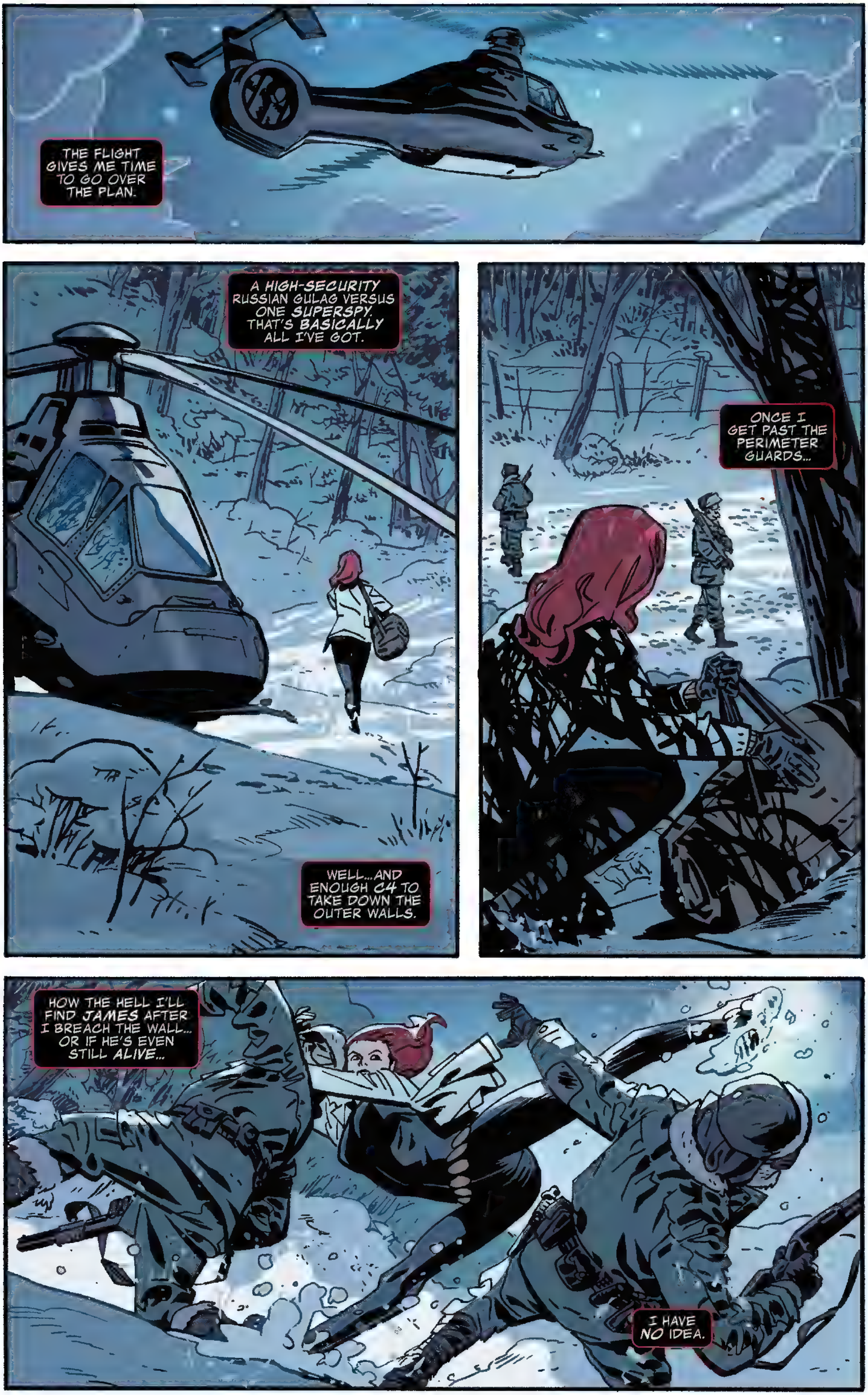

YOU MAKE RASH DECISIONS...

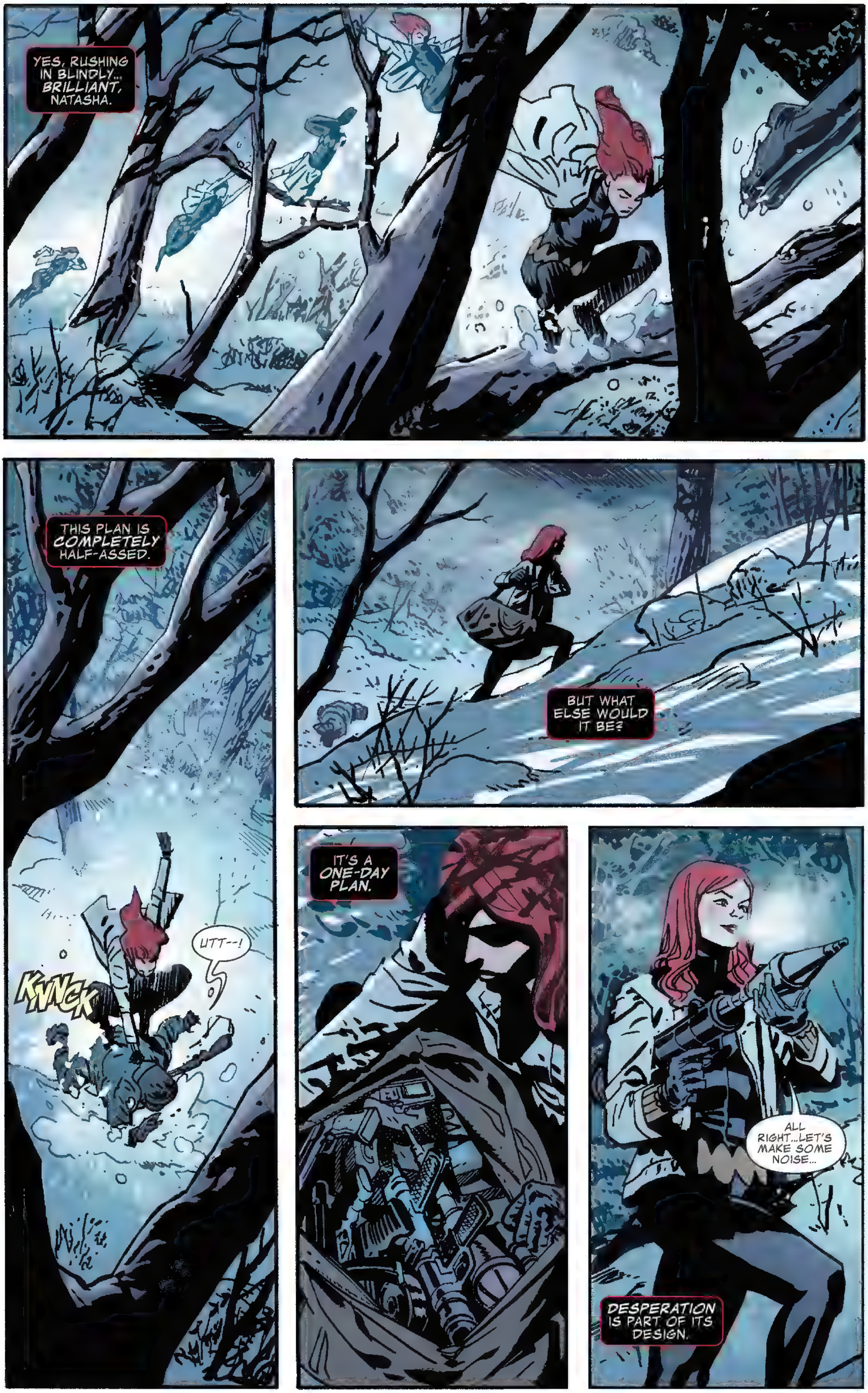

...BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE TIME FOR ANY OTHER KIND.
HELLO, VADIM...IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME...
...WUUUHH...?

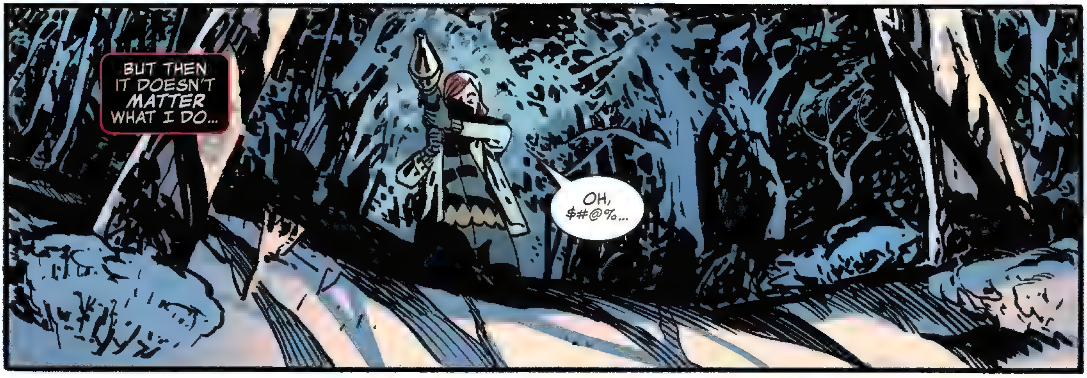

WIDOW?

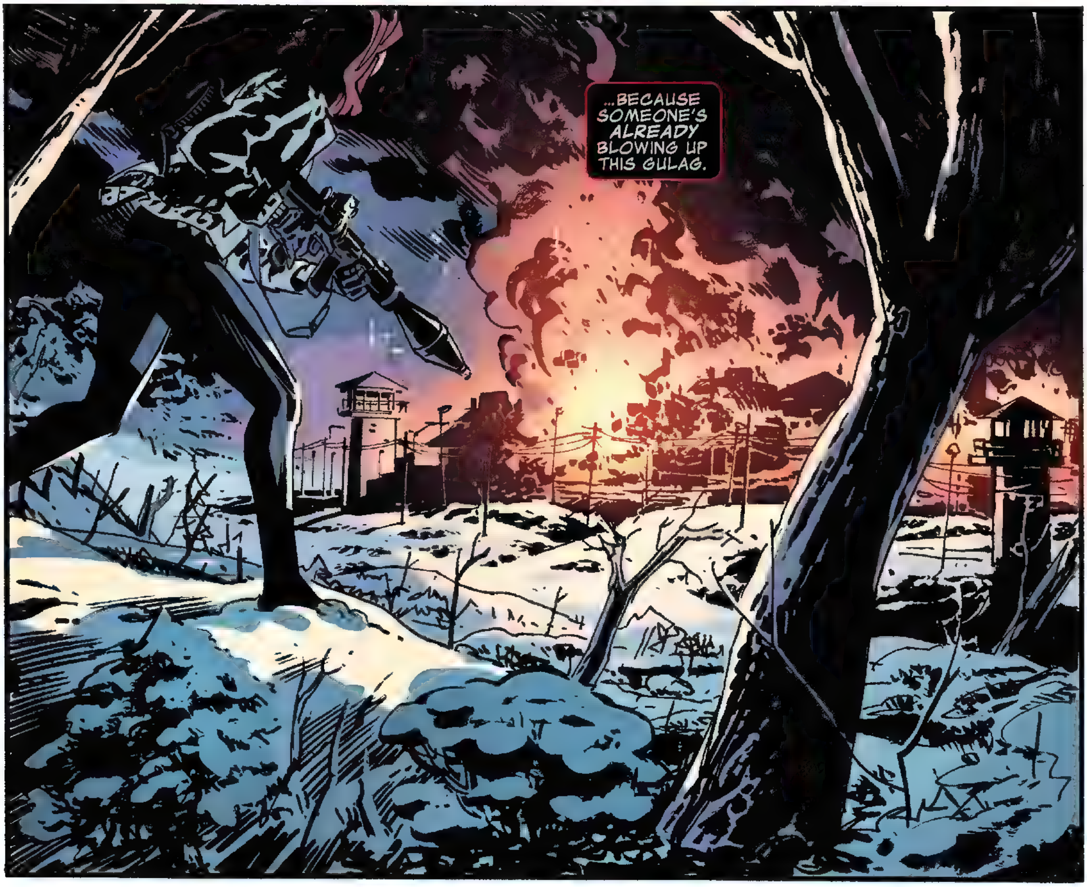

IT HASN'T BEEN LONG ENOUGH...
DON'T BE A GROUCHY OLD MAN...I'M HERE TO MAKE A DEAL.
BAHH...YOU NEVER BRING ANYTHING BUT TROUBLE...
TRUE...
...AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M PREPARED TO TRADE.
EX-KGB CONTACTS ON ONE SIDE OF MOSCOW...
SKKRAAASH
...LEAD TO BLACK MARKET GUNRUNNERS ON THE OTHER SIDE.
THEY'RE NO WORSE THAN THE MEN WHO'LL REPLACE THEM TOMORROW...
KRNNGH
GUHH--

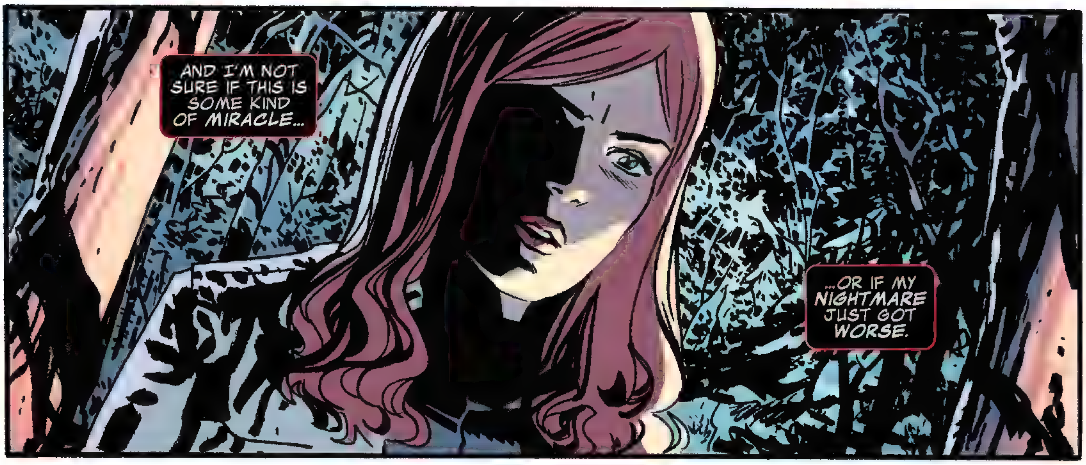

...BUT TOMORROW WILL HAVE TO BE *SOMEONE ELSE'S* PROBLEM.
IT'S *DONE.*
SET IT UP.
I DON'T *LIKE* DOING VADIM'S DIRTY WORK...
...WIPING OUT PART OF HIS *COMPETITION*...
...BUT HIS *MERCENARY FRIENDS* HAVE WHAT I NEED TO SAVE JAMES.
--AND DO YOU WANT A PILOT, TOO?
NO... JUST THE *HELICOPTER.*

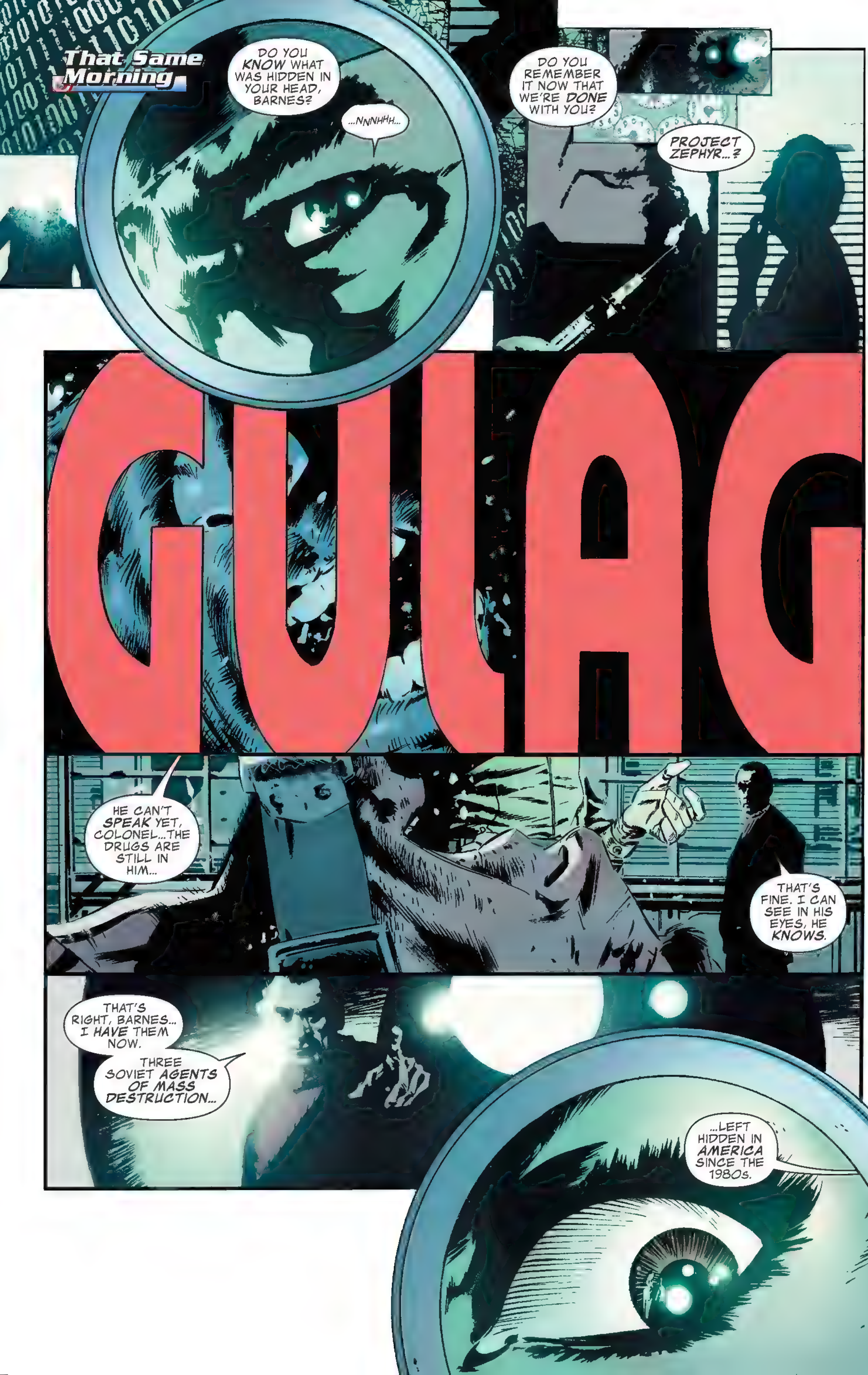

THE FLIGHT GIVES ME TIME TO GO OVER THE PLAN.
A HIGH-SECURITY RUSSIAN GULAG VERSUS ONE SUPERSPY. THAT'S BASICALLY ALL I'VE GOT.
WELL...AND ENOUGH C4 TO TAKE DOWN THE OUTER WALLS.
ONCE I GET PAST THE PERIMETER GUARDS...
HOW THE HELL I'LL FIND JAMES AFTER I BREACH THE WALL... OR IF HE'S EVEN STILL ALIVE...
I HAVE NO IDEA.

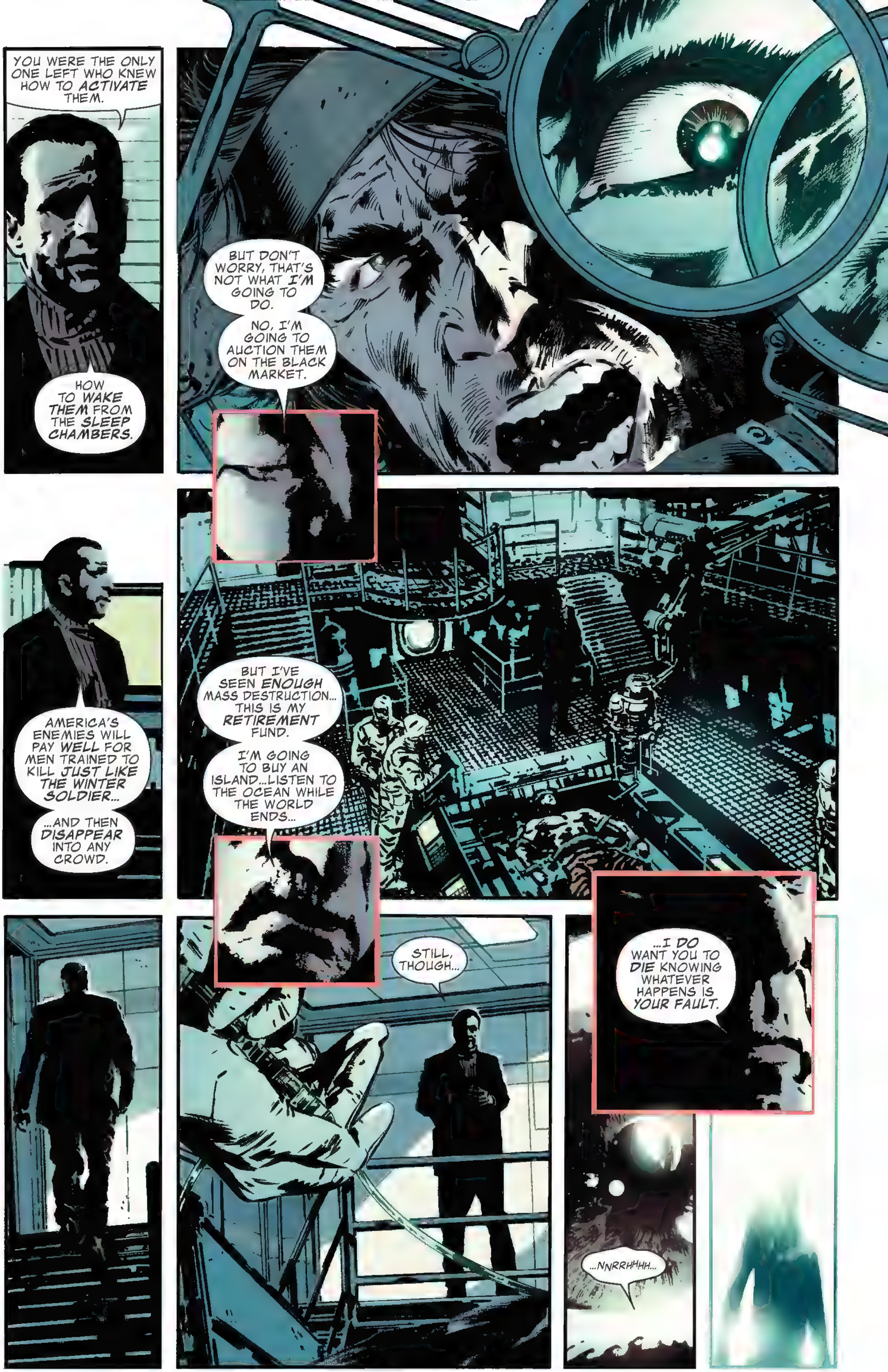

YES, RUSHING IN BLINDLY... BRILLIANT, NATASHA.
THIS PLAN IS COMPLETELY HALF-ASSED.
KNNCK
UTT--!
BUT WHAT ELSE WOULD IT BE?
IT'S A ONE-DAY PLAN.
ALL RIGHT...LET'S MAKE SOME NOISE...
DESPERATION IS PART OF ITS DESIGN.

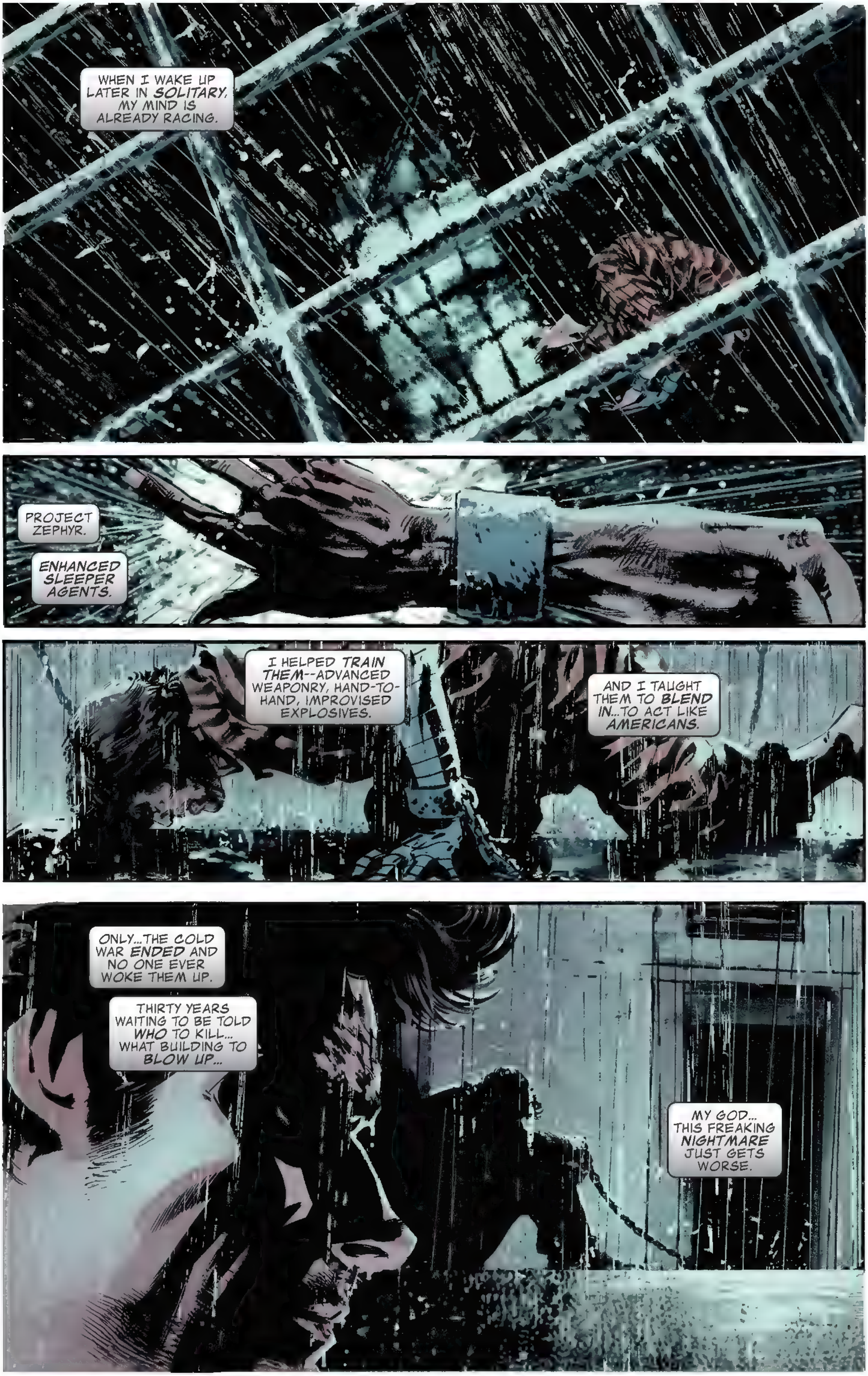

BUT THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT I DO...
OH, $#@%...

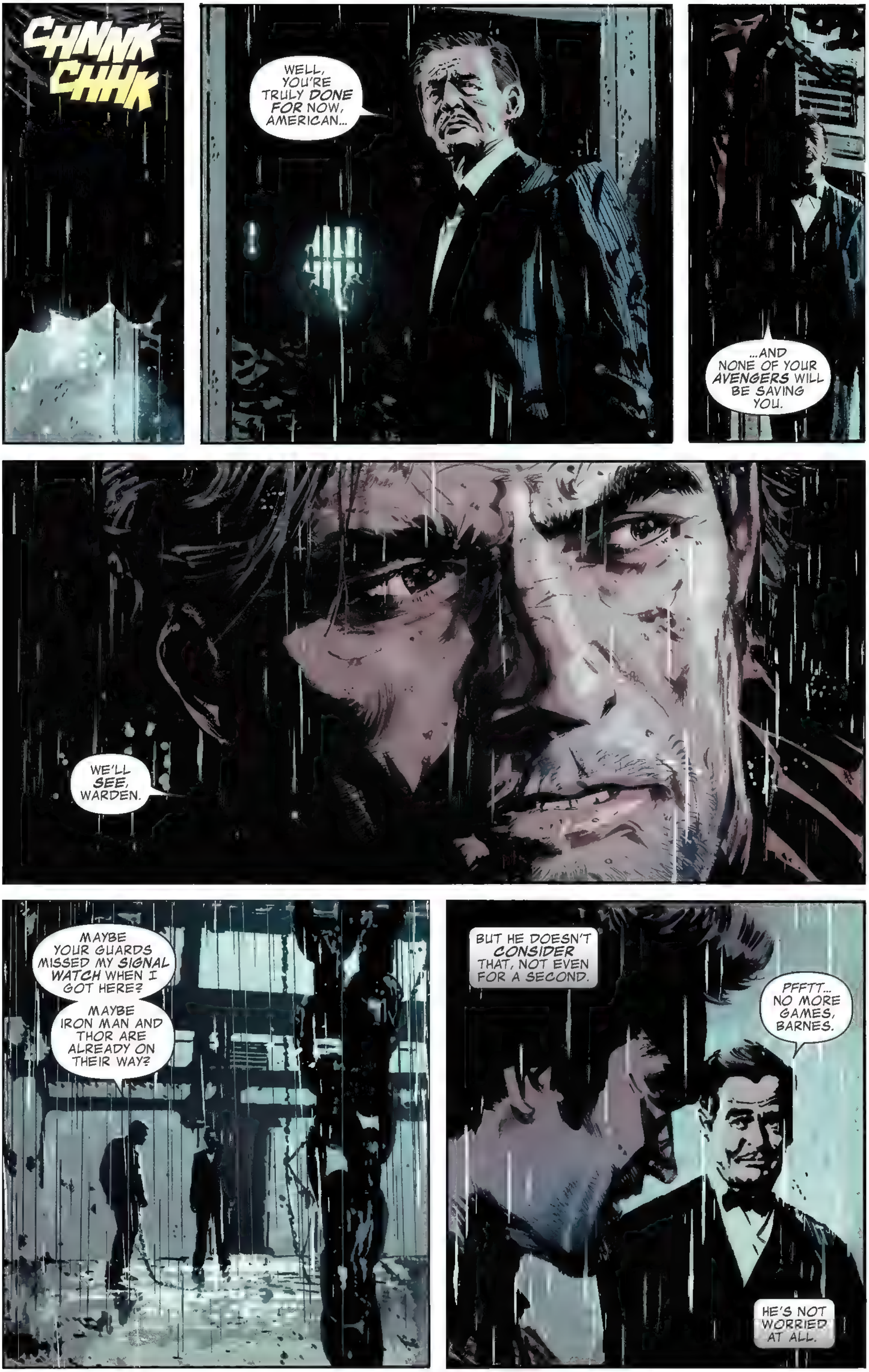

...BECAUSE SOMEONE'S ALREADY BLOWING UP THIS GULAG.

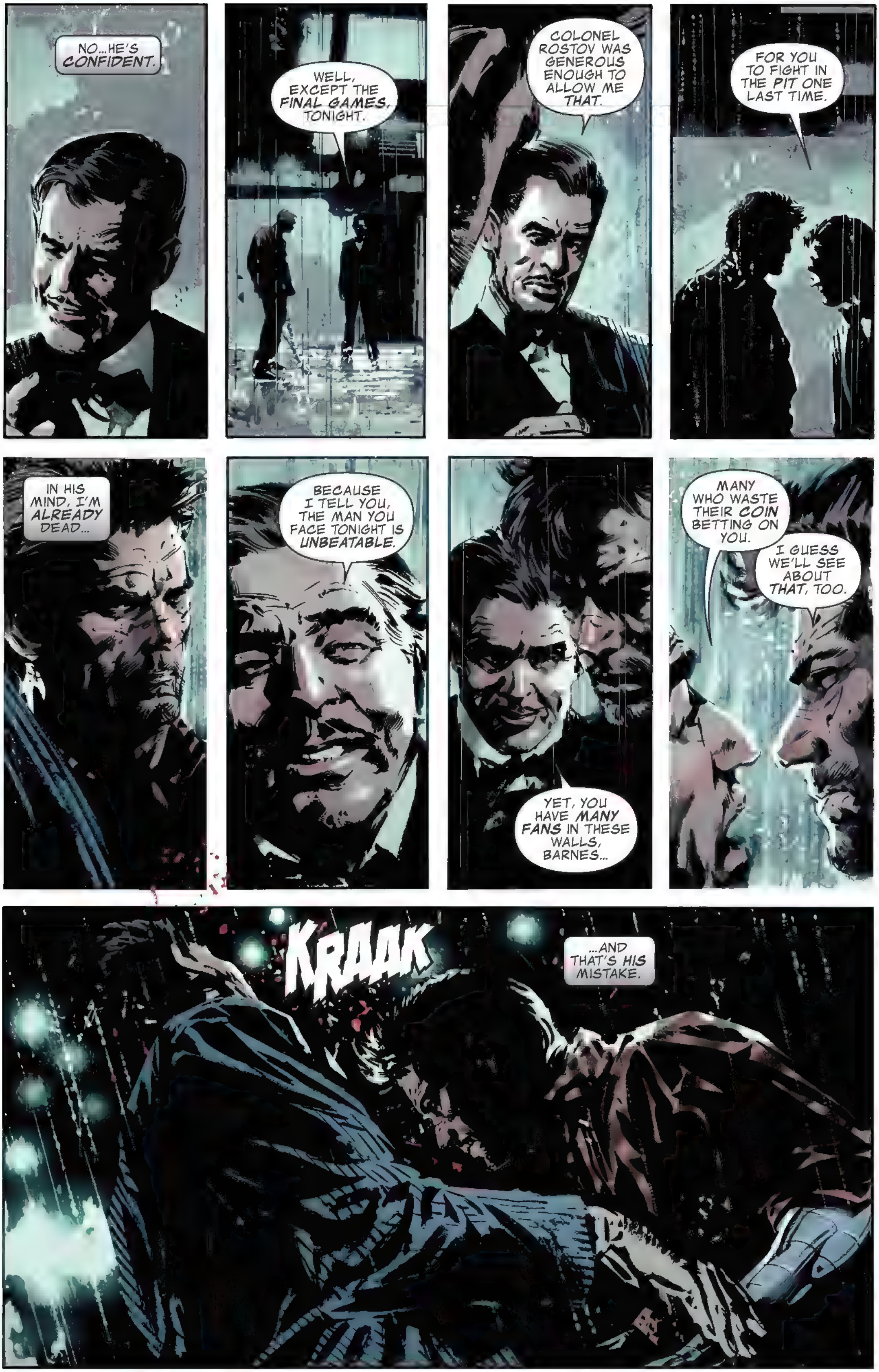

AND I'M NOT SURE IF THIS IS SOME KIND OF MIRACLE...
...OR IF MY NIGHTMARE JUST GOT WORSE.

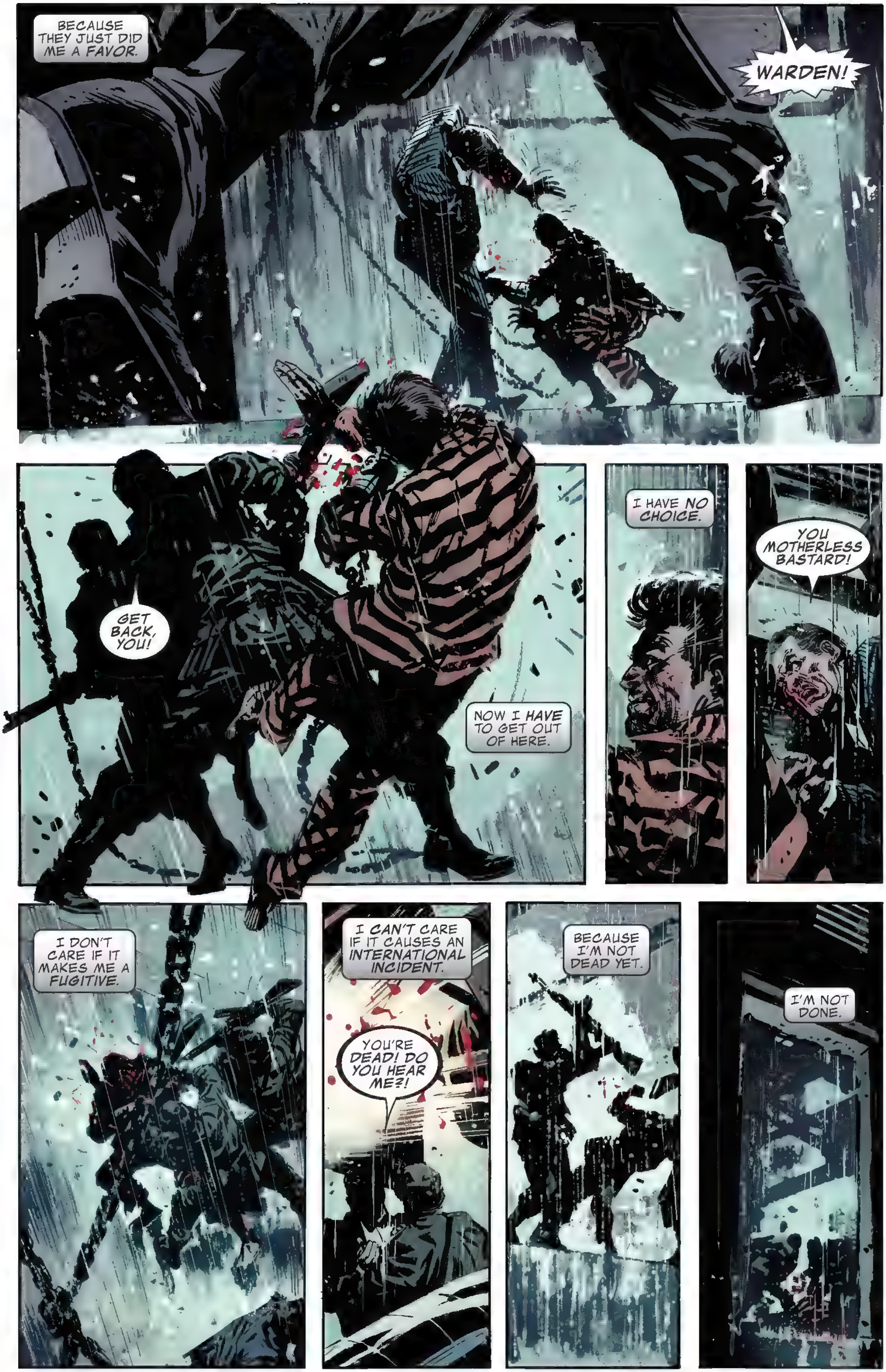

That Same Morning
DO YOU KNOW WHAT WAS HIDDEN IN YOUR HEAD, BARNES?
...NNNHHH...
DO YOU REMEMBER IT NOW THAT WE'RE DONE WITH YOU?
PROJECT ZEPHYR...?
GULAG
HE CAN'T SPEAK YET, COLONEL...THE DRUGS ARE STILL IN HIM...
THAT'S FINE. I CAN SEE IN HIS EYES, HE KNOWS.
THAT'S RIGHT, BARNES... I HAVE THEM NOW.
THREE SOVIET AGENTS OF MASS DESTRUCTION...
...LEFT HIDDEN IN AMERICA SINCE THE 1980s.

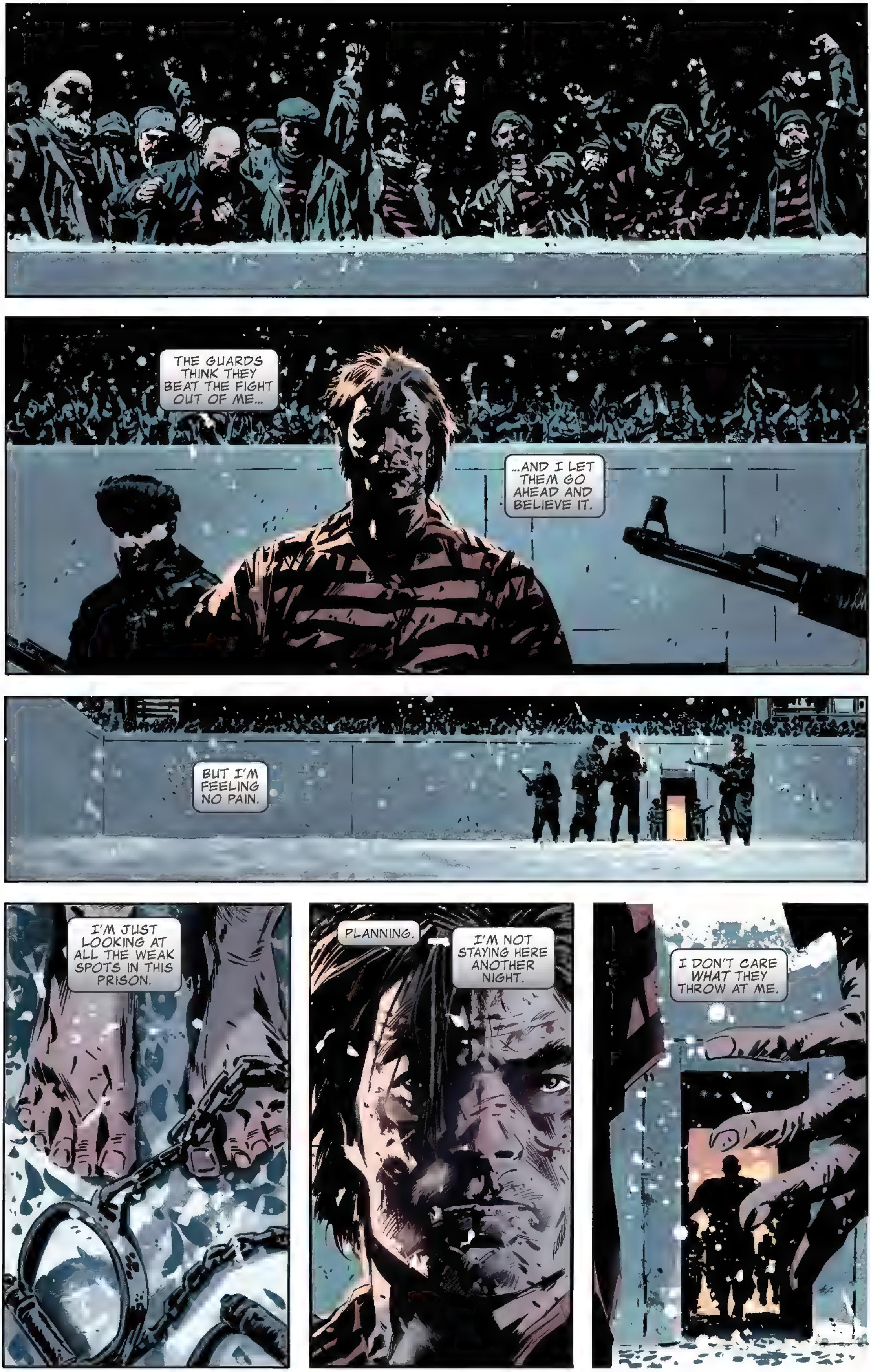

YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE LEFT WHO KNEW HOW TO *ACTIVATE* THEM.
HOW TO *WAKE THEM* FROM THE *SLEEP CHAMBERS.*
BUT DON'T WORRY, THAT'S NOT WHAT *I'M* GOING TO DO.
NO, I'M GOING TO AUCTION THEM ON THE BLACK MARKET.
AMERICA'S ENEMIES WILL PAY *WELL* FOR MEN TRAINED TO KILL *JUST LIKE THE WINTER SOLDIER...*
...AND THEN *DISAPPEAR* INTO ANY CROWD.
BUT I'VE SEEN *ENOUGH* MASS DESTRUCTION... THIS IS MY *RETIREMENT* FUND.
I'M GOING TO BUY AN ISLAND...LISTEN TO THE OCEAN WHILE THE WORLD ENDS...
STILL, THOUGH...
...*I DO* WANT YOU TO *DIE* KNOWING WHATEVER HAPPENS IS *YOUR FAULT.*
...NNRRHHHH...

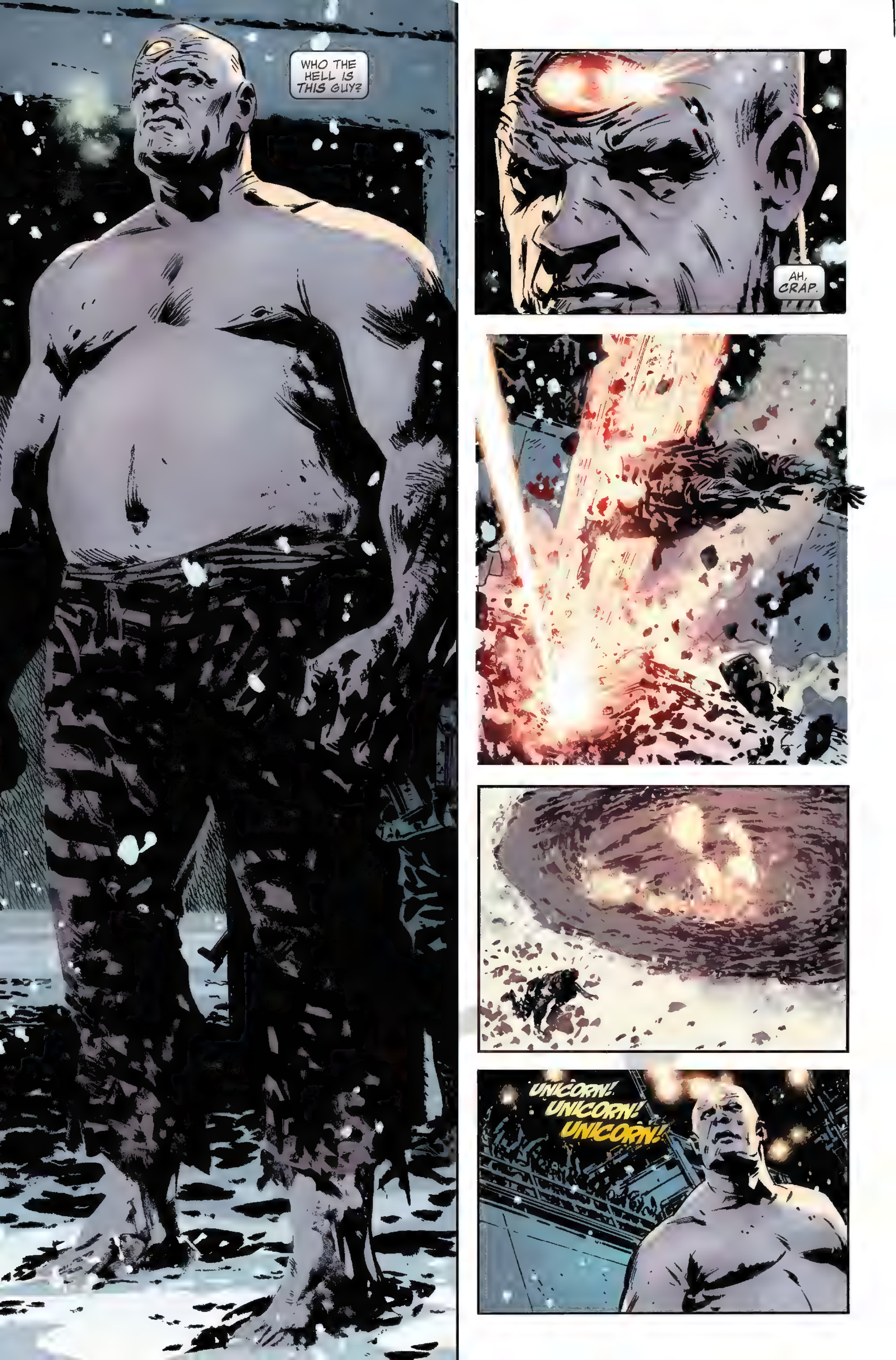

WHEN I WAKE UP LATER IN *SOLITARY*, MY MIND IS ALREADY RACING.
PROJECT ZEPHYR.
ENHANCED SLEEPER AGENTS.
I HELPED *TRAIN THEM*--ADVANCED WEAPONRY, HAND-TO-HAND, IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVES.
AND I TAUGHT THEM TO *BLEND IN*...TO ACT LIKE *AMERICANS*.
ONLY...THE COLD WAR *ENDED* AND NO ONE EVER WOKE THEM UP.
THIRTY YEARS WAITING TO BE TOLD *WHO* TO KILL... WHAT BUILDING TO *BLOW UP*...
MY GOD... THIS FREAKING *NIGHTMARE* JUST GETS WORSE.

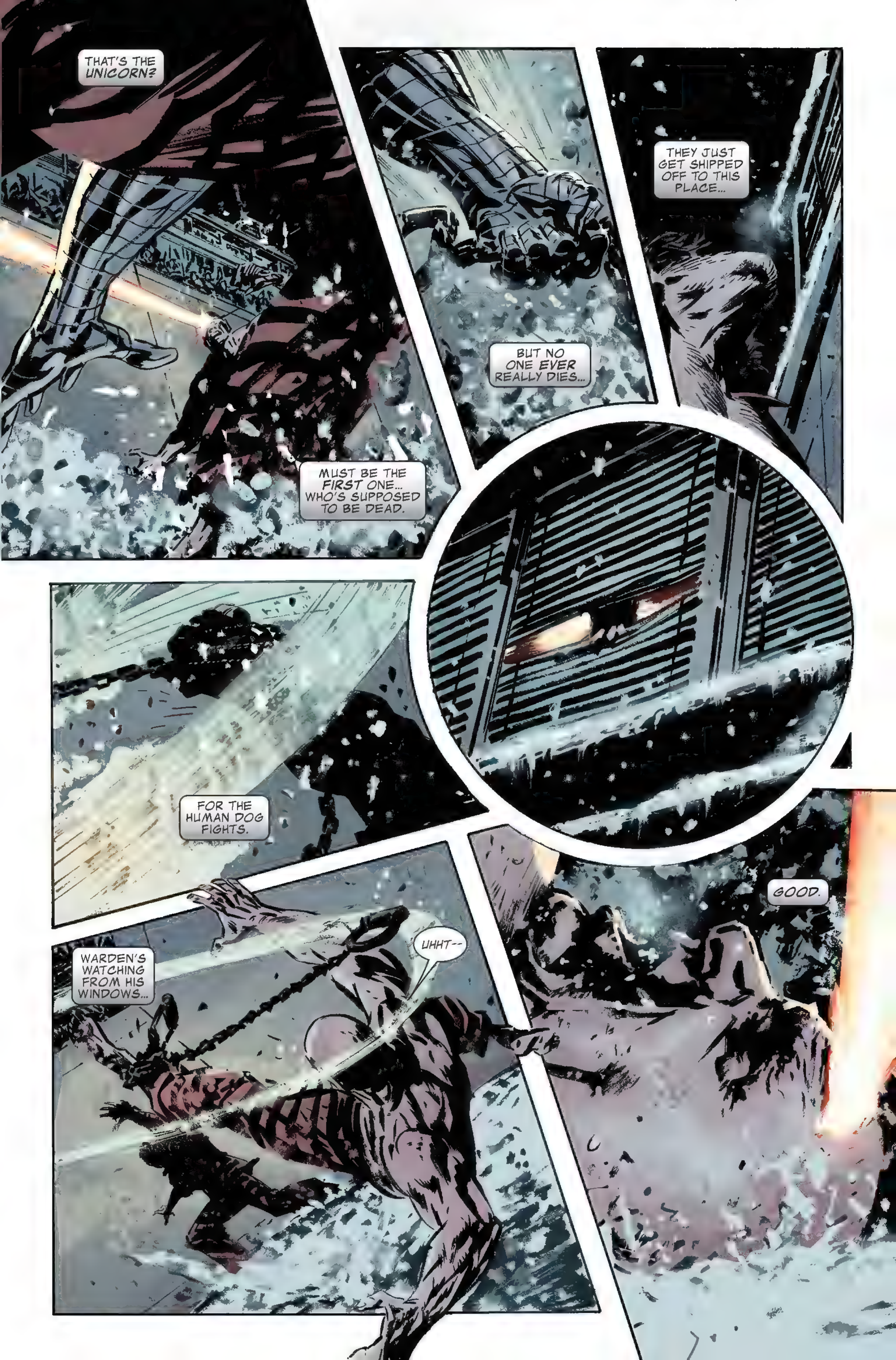

CHNNK CHHK
WELL, YOU'RE TRULY DONE FOR NOW, AMERICAN...
...AND NONE OF YOUR AVENGERS WILL BE SAVING YOU.
WE'LL SEE, WARDEN.
MAYBE YOUR GUARDS MISSED MY SIGNAL WATCH WHEN I GOT HERE?
MAYBE IRON MAN AND THOR ARE ALREADY ON THEIR WAY?
BUT HE DOESN'T CONSIDER THAT, NOT EVEN FOR A SECOND.
PFFTT... NO MORE GAMES, BARNES.
HE'S NOT WORRIED AT ALL.

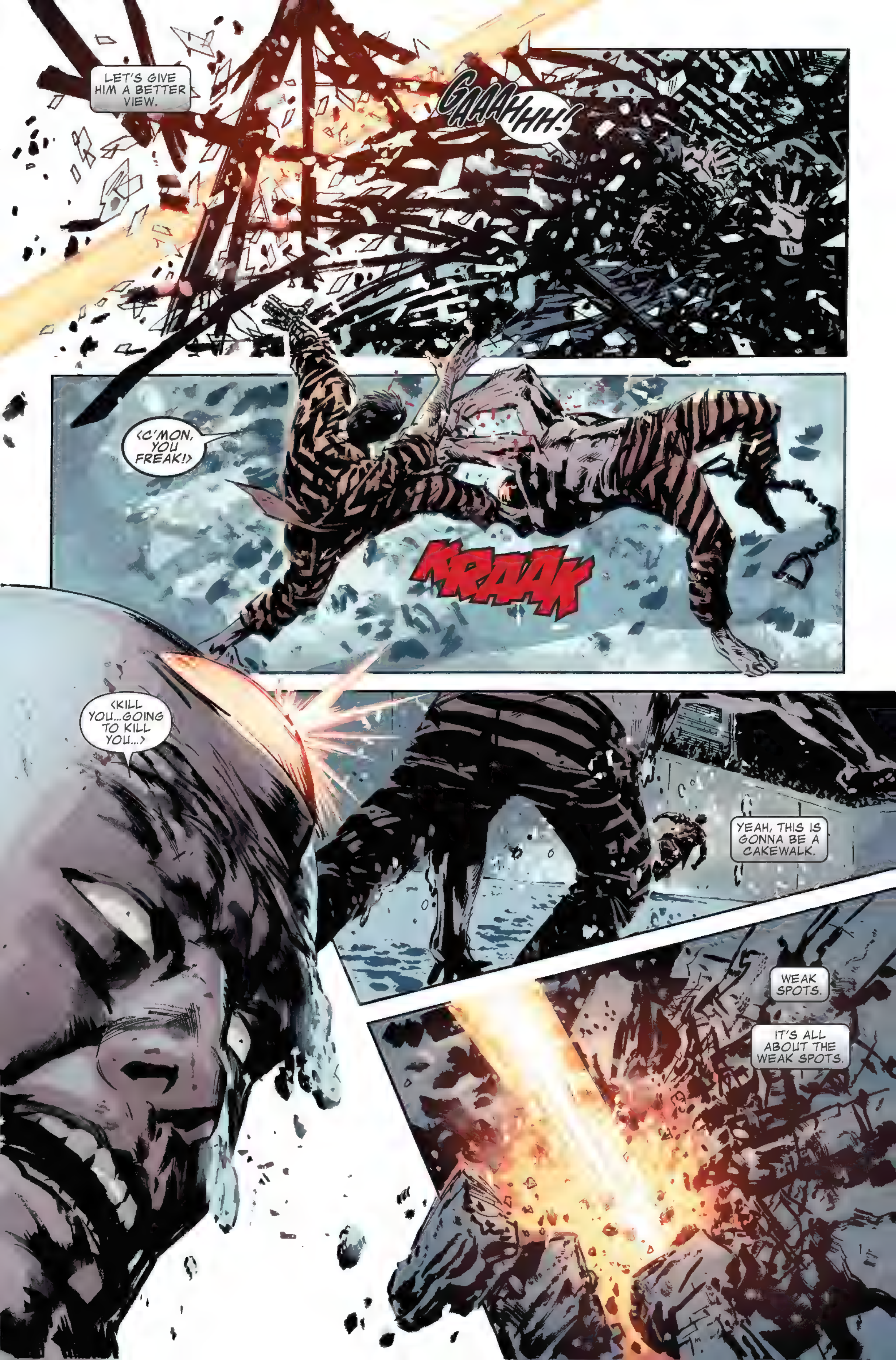

NO...HE'S *CONFIDENT.*
WELL, EXCEPT THE *FINAL GAMES,* TONIGHT.
COLONEL ROSTOV WAS GENEROUS ENOUGH TO ALLOW ME *THAT.*
FOR YOU TO FIGHT IN THE *PIT* ONE LAST TIME.
IN HIS MIND, I'M *ALREADY* DEAD...
BECAUSE I TELL YOU, THE MAN YOU FACE TONIGHT IS *UNBEATABLE.*
YET, YOU HAVE *MANY FANS* IN THESE WALLS, BARNES...
MANY WHO WASTE THEIR *COIN* BETTING ON YOU.
I GUESS WE'LL SEE ABOUT *THAT,* TOO.
KRAAK
...AND THAT'S *HIS* MISTAKE.

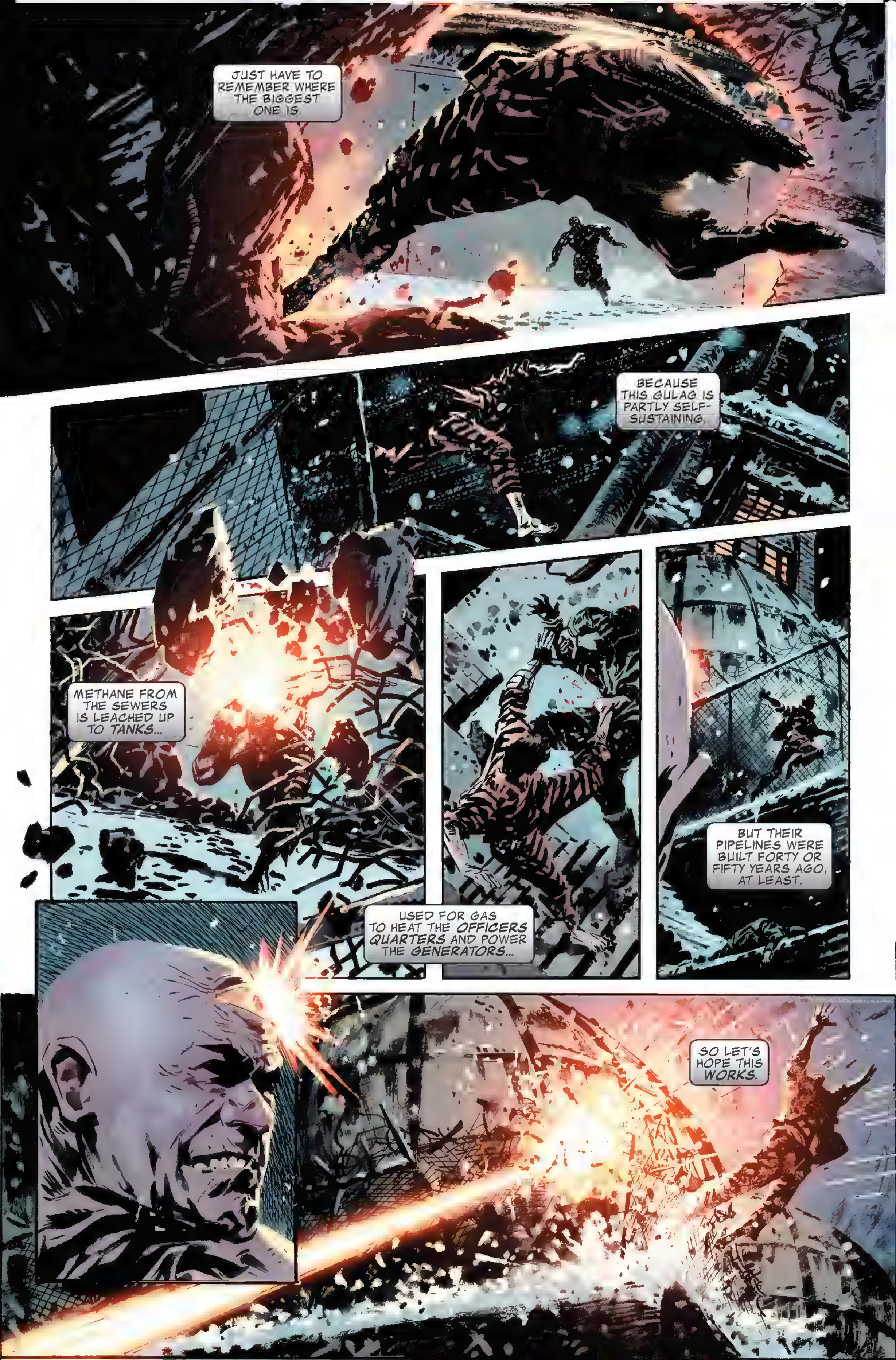

BECAUSE THEY JUST DID ME A FAVOR.
WARDEN!
GET BACK, YOU!
NOW I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE.
I HAVE NO CHOICE.
YOU MOTHERLESS BASTARD!
I DON'T CARE IF IT MAKES ME A FUGITIVE.
I CAN'T CARE IF IT CAUSES AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT.
YOU'RE DEAD! DO YOU HEAR ME?!
BECAUSE I'M NOT DEAD YET.
I'M NOT DONE.

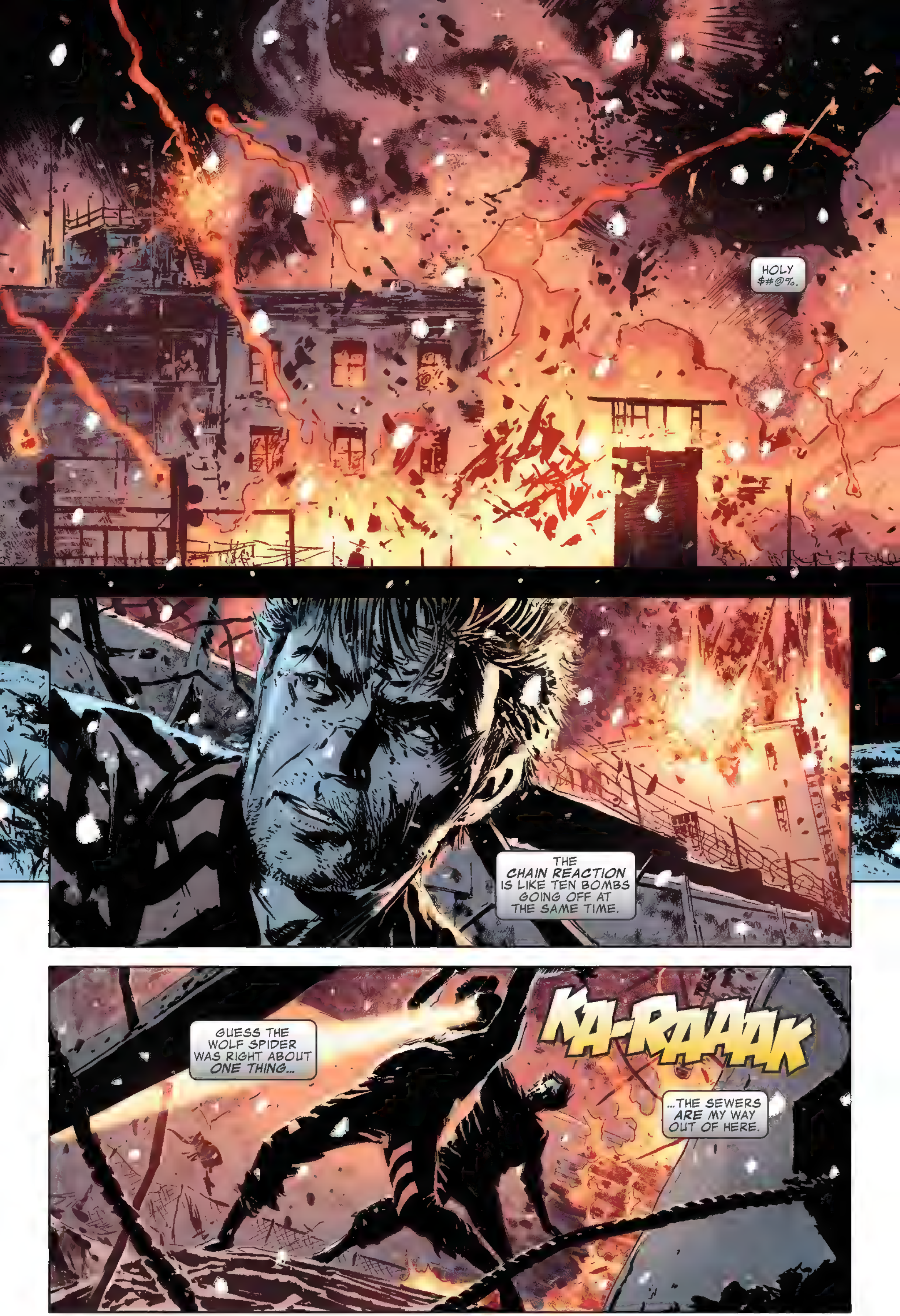

THE GUARDS THINK THEY BEAT THE FIGHT OUT OF ME...
...AND I LET THEM GO AHEAD AND BELIEVE IT.
BUT I'M FEELING NO PAIN.
I'M JUST LOOKING AT ALL THE WEAK SPOTS IN THIS PRISON.
PLANNING.
I'M NOT STAYING HERE ANOTHER NIGHT.
I DON'T CARE *WHAT* THEY THROW AT ME.

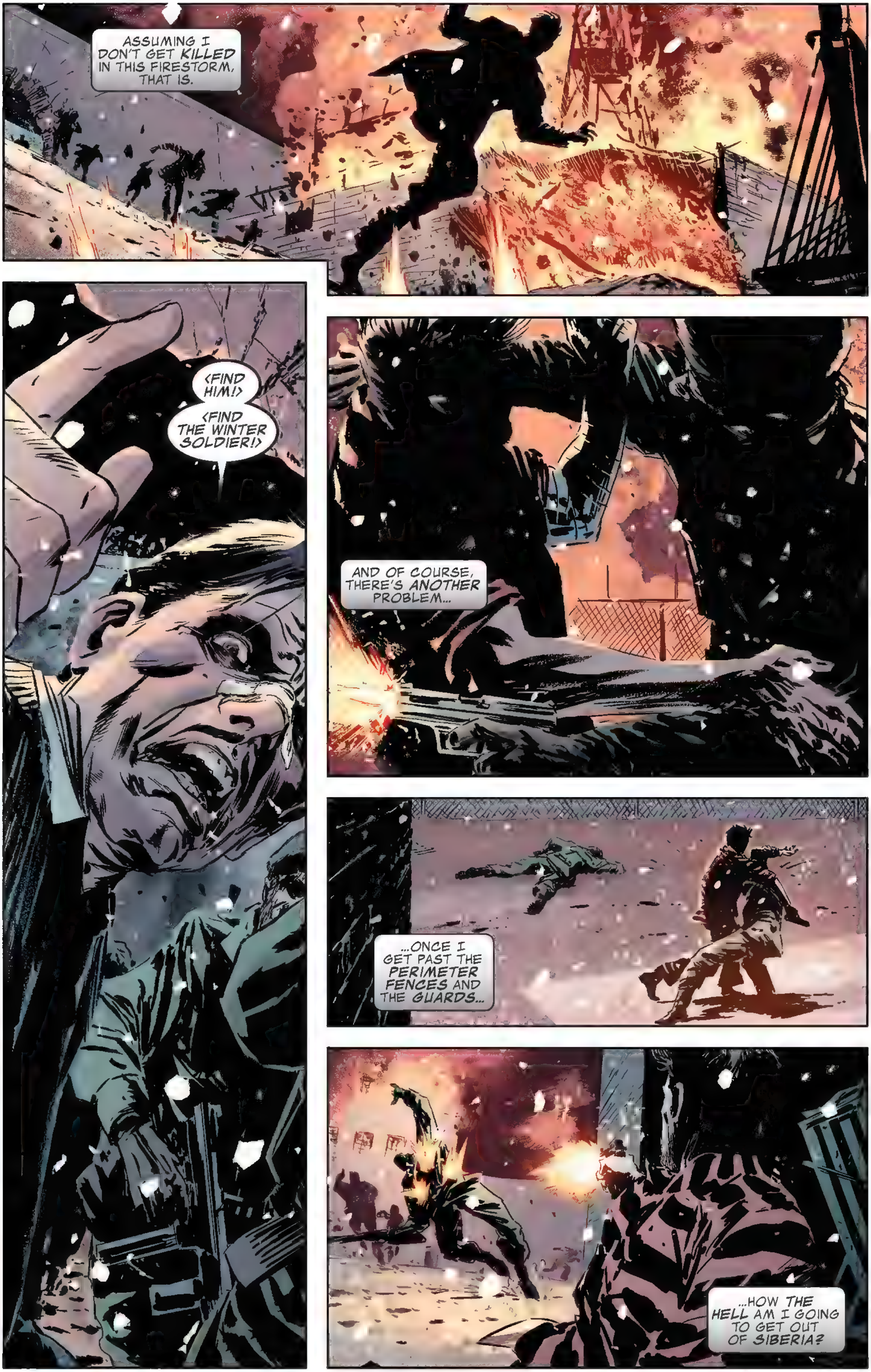

WHO THE HELL IS THIS GUY?
AH, CRAP.
UNICORN!
UNICORN!
UNICORN!

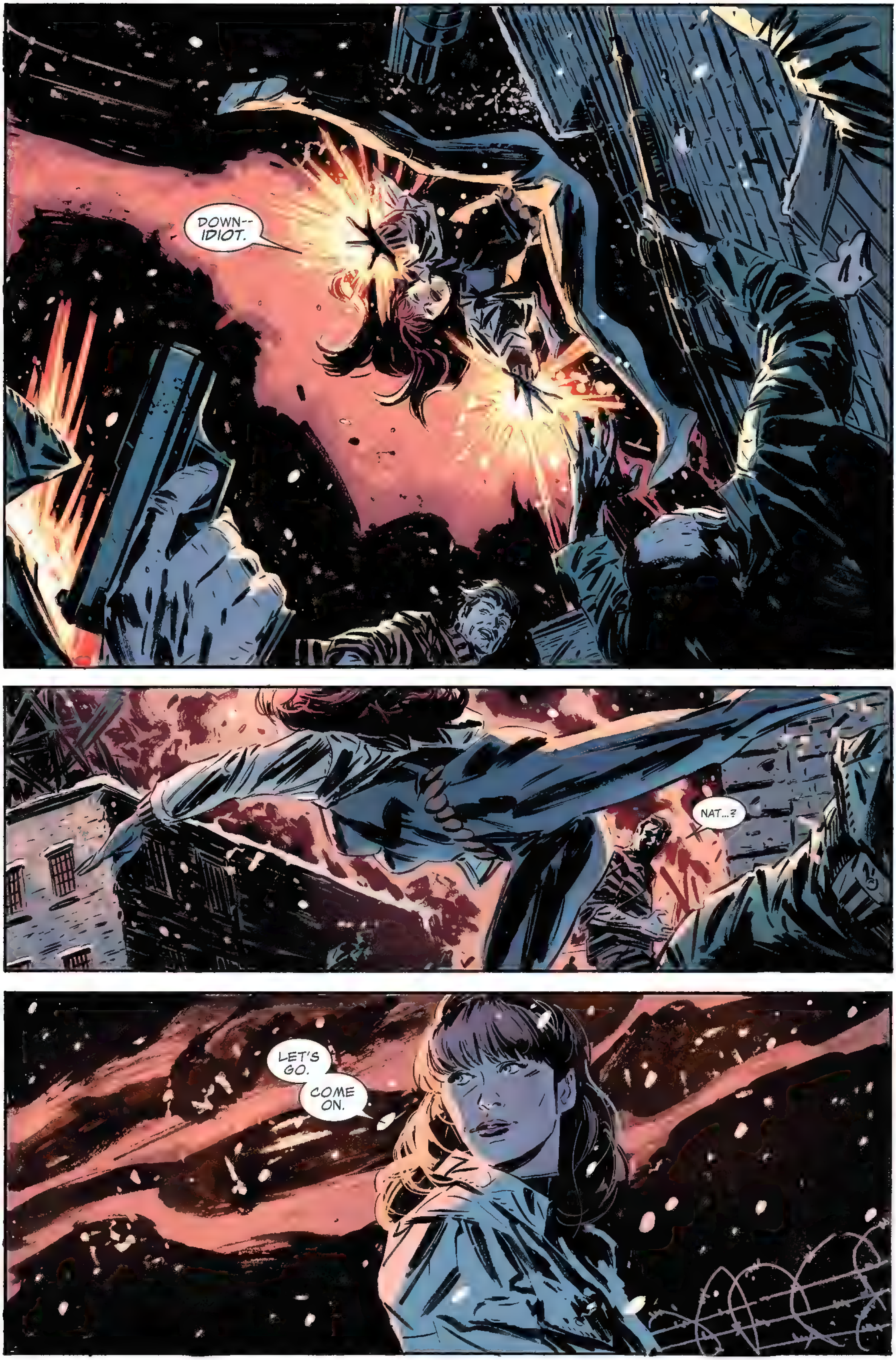

THAT'S THE *UNICORN?*
THEY JUST GET SHIPPED OFF TO THIS PLACE...
BUT NO ONE **EVER** REALLY DIES...
MUST BE THE ***FIRST*** ONE... WHO'S SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD.
FOR THE HUMAN DOG FIGHTS.
WARDEN'S WATCHING FROM HIS WINDOWS...
UHHT--
GOOD.

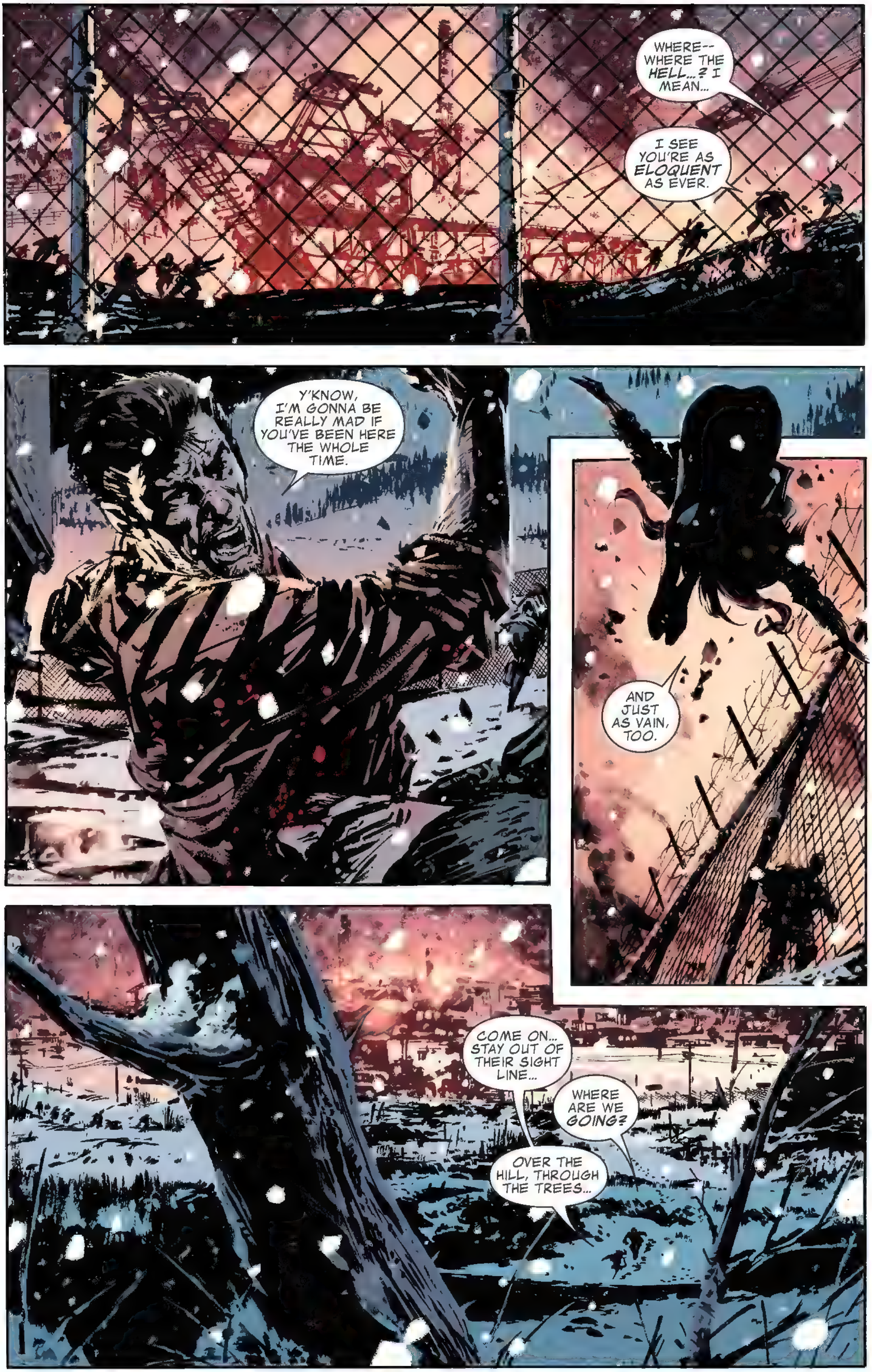

LET'S GIVE HIM A BETTER VIEW.
GAAAHHH!
<C'MON, YOU FREAK!>
KRAAK
<KILL YOU...GOING TO KILL YOU...>
YEAH, THIS IS GONNA BE A CAKEWALK.
WEAK SPOTS.
IT'S ALL ABOUT THE WEAK SPOTS.

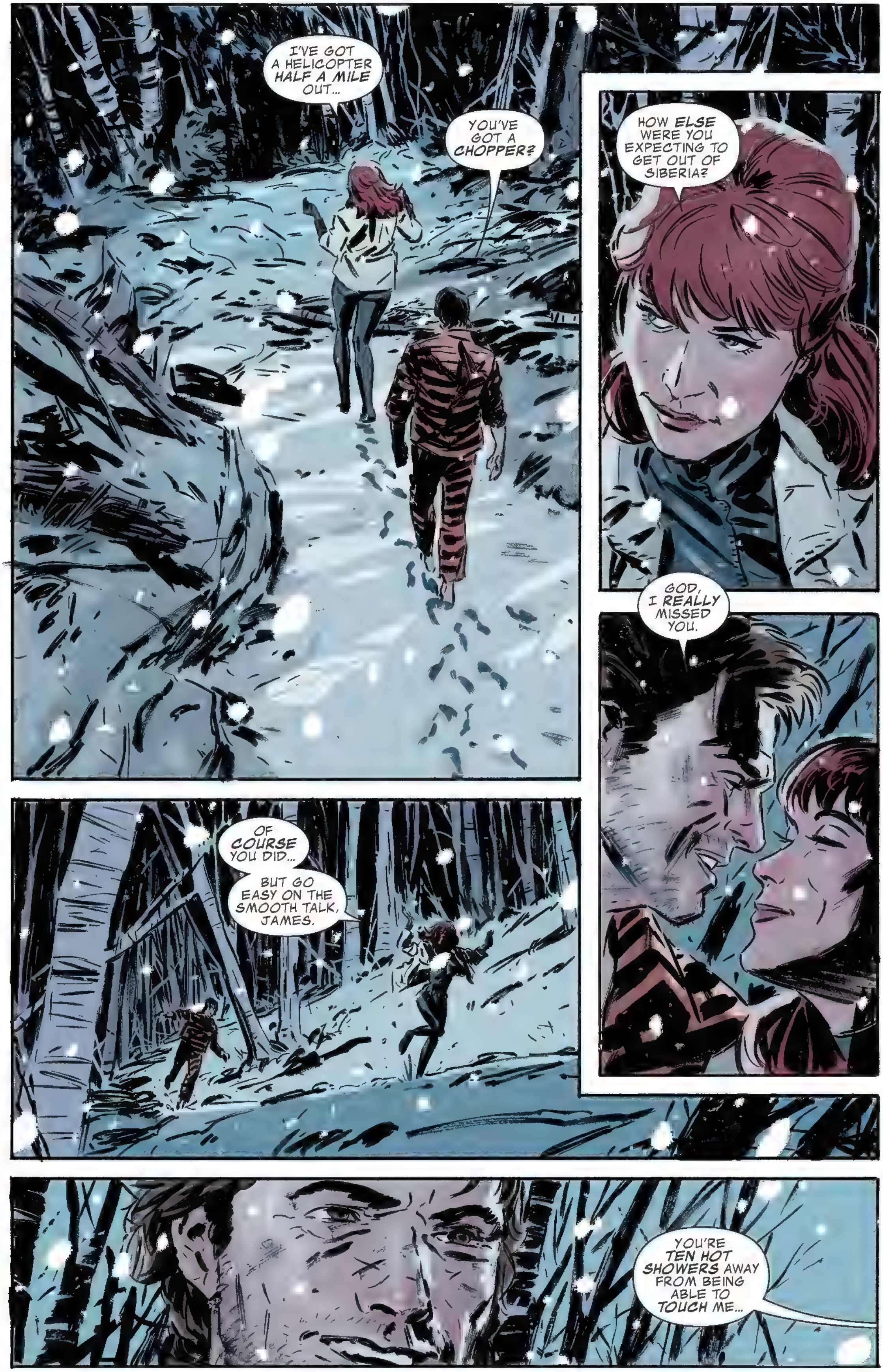

JUST HAVE TO REMEMBER WHERE THE BIGGEST ONE IS.
BECAUSE THIS GULAG IS PARTLY SELF-SUSTAINING.
METHANE FROM THE SEWERS IS LEACHED UP TO *TANKS*...
USED FOR GAS TO HEAT THE *OFFICERS QUARTERS* AND POWER THE *GENERATORS*...
BUT THEIR PIPELINES WERE BUILT FORTY OR FIFTY YEARS AGO, AT LEAST.
SO LET'S HOPE THIS *WORKS*.

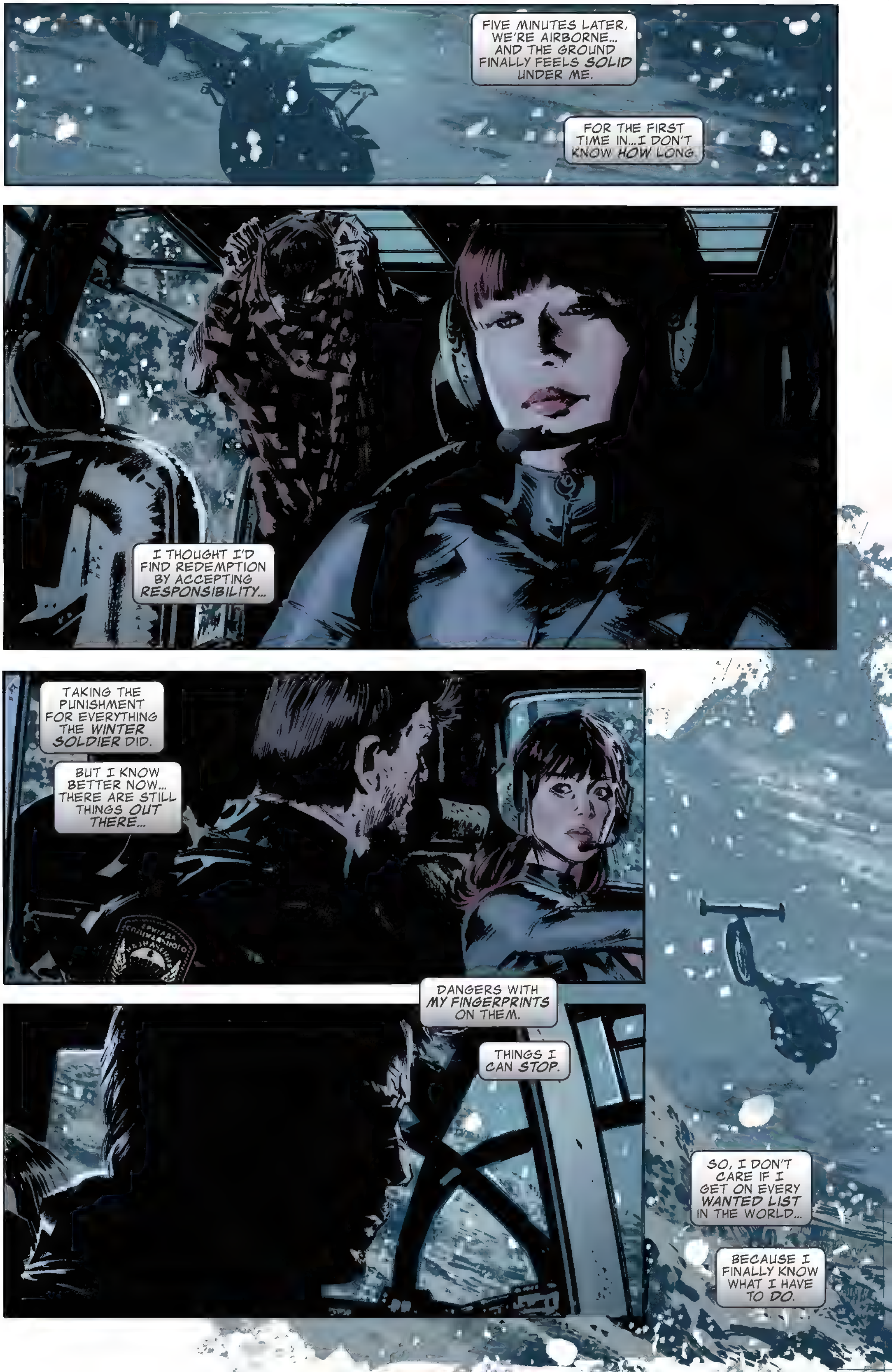

HOLY $#@%.
THE CHAIN REACTION IS LIKE TEN BOMBS GOING OFF AT THE SAME TIME.
GUESS THE WOLF SPIDER WAS RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING...
KA-RAAAK
...THE SEWERS ARE MY WAY OUT OF HERE.

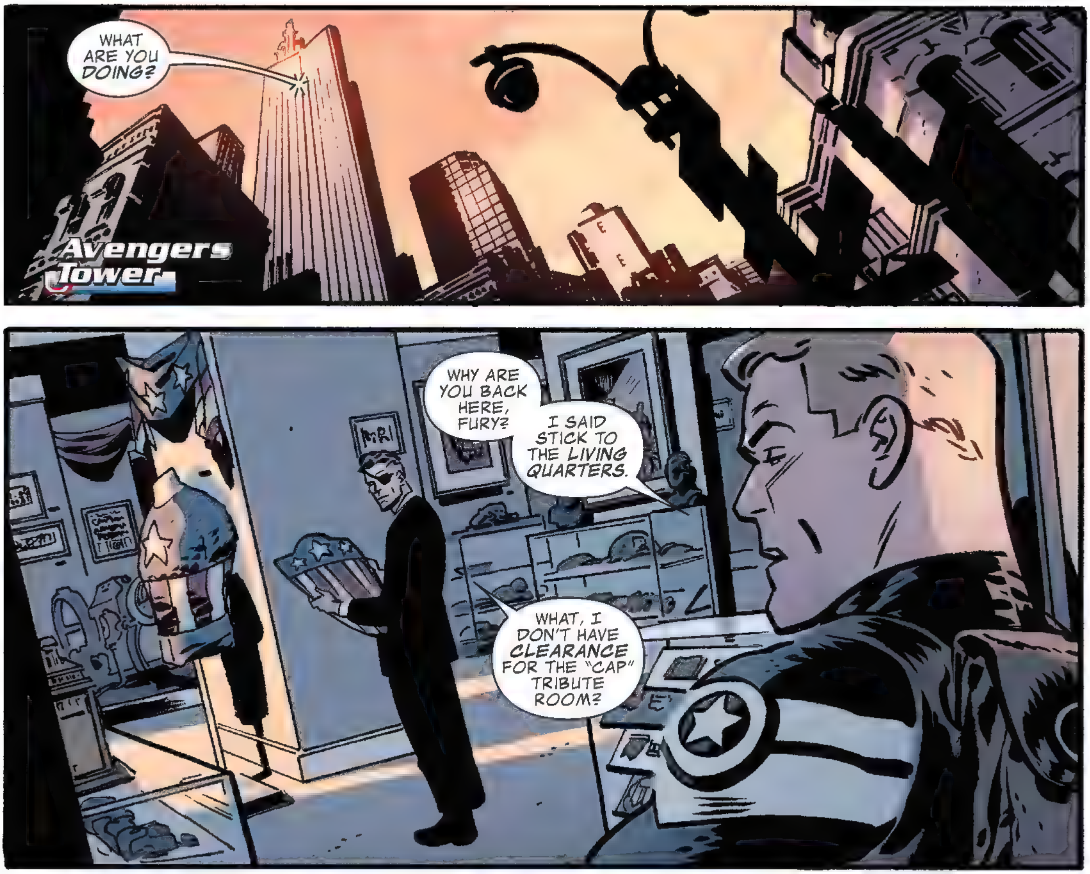

ASSUMING I DON'T GET KILLED IN THIS FIRESTORM, THAT IS.
<FIND HIM!>
<FIND THE WINTER SOLDIER!>
AND OF COURSE, THERE'S ANOTHER PROBLEM...
...ONCE I GET PAST THE PERIMETER FENCES AND THE GUARDS...
...HOW THE HELL AM I GOING TO GET OUT OF SIBERIA?


DOWN-- IDIOT.
NAT...?
LET'S GO.
COME ON.

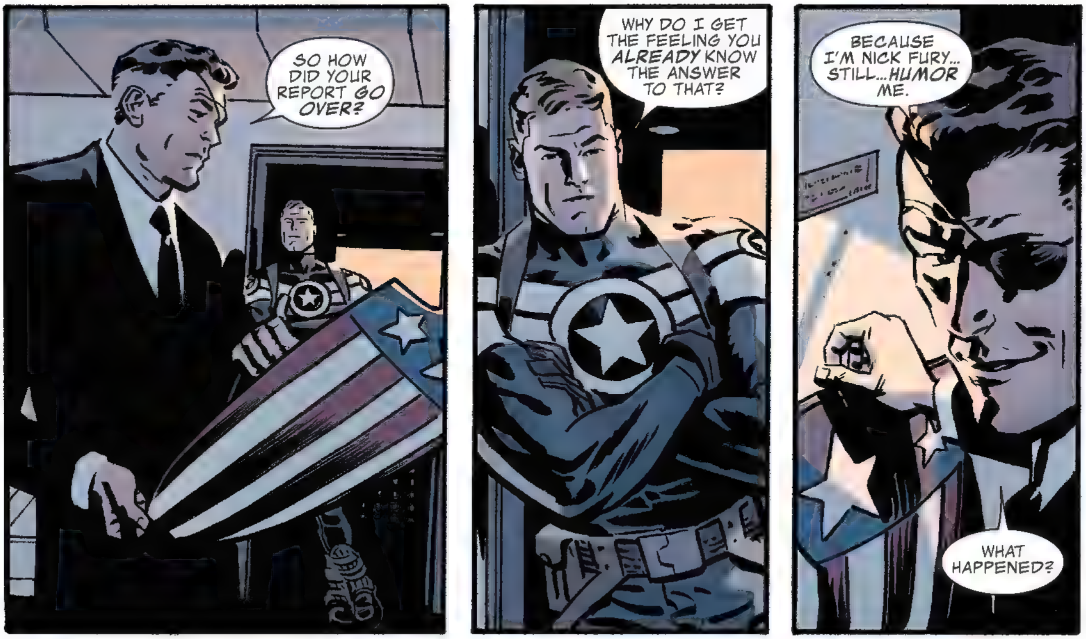

WHERE-- WHERE THE *HELL*...? I MEAN...
I SEE YOU'RE AS *ELOQUENT* AS EVER.
Y'KNOW, I'M GONNA BE REALLY MAD IF YOU'VE BEEN HERE THE WHOLE TIME.
AND JUST AS VAIN, TOO.
COME ON... STAY OUT OF THEIR SIGHT LINE...
WHERE ARE WE *GOING?*
OVER THE HILL, THROUGH THE TREES...

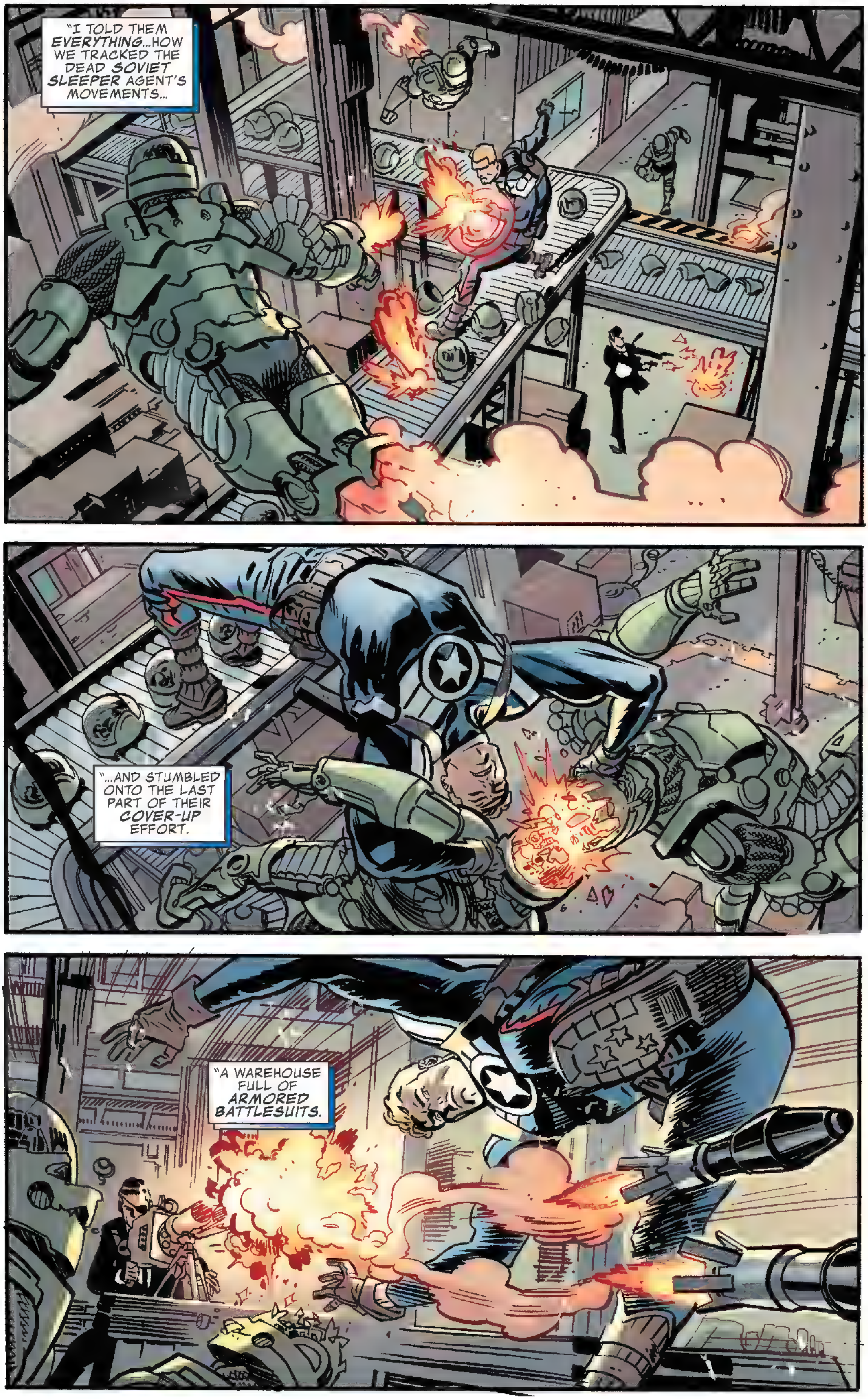

I'VE GOT A HELICOPTER HALF A MILE OUT...
YOU'VE GOT A CHOPPER?
HOW ELSE WERE YOU EXPECTING TO GET OUT OF SIBERIA?
GOD, I REALLY MISSED YOU.
OF COURSE YOU DID...
BUT GO EASY ON THE SMOOTH TALK, JAMES.
YOU'RE TEN HOT SHOWERS AWAY FROM BEING ABLE TO TOUCH ME...

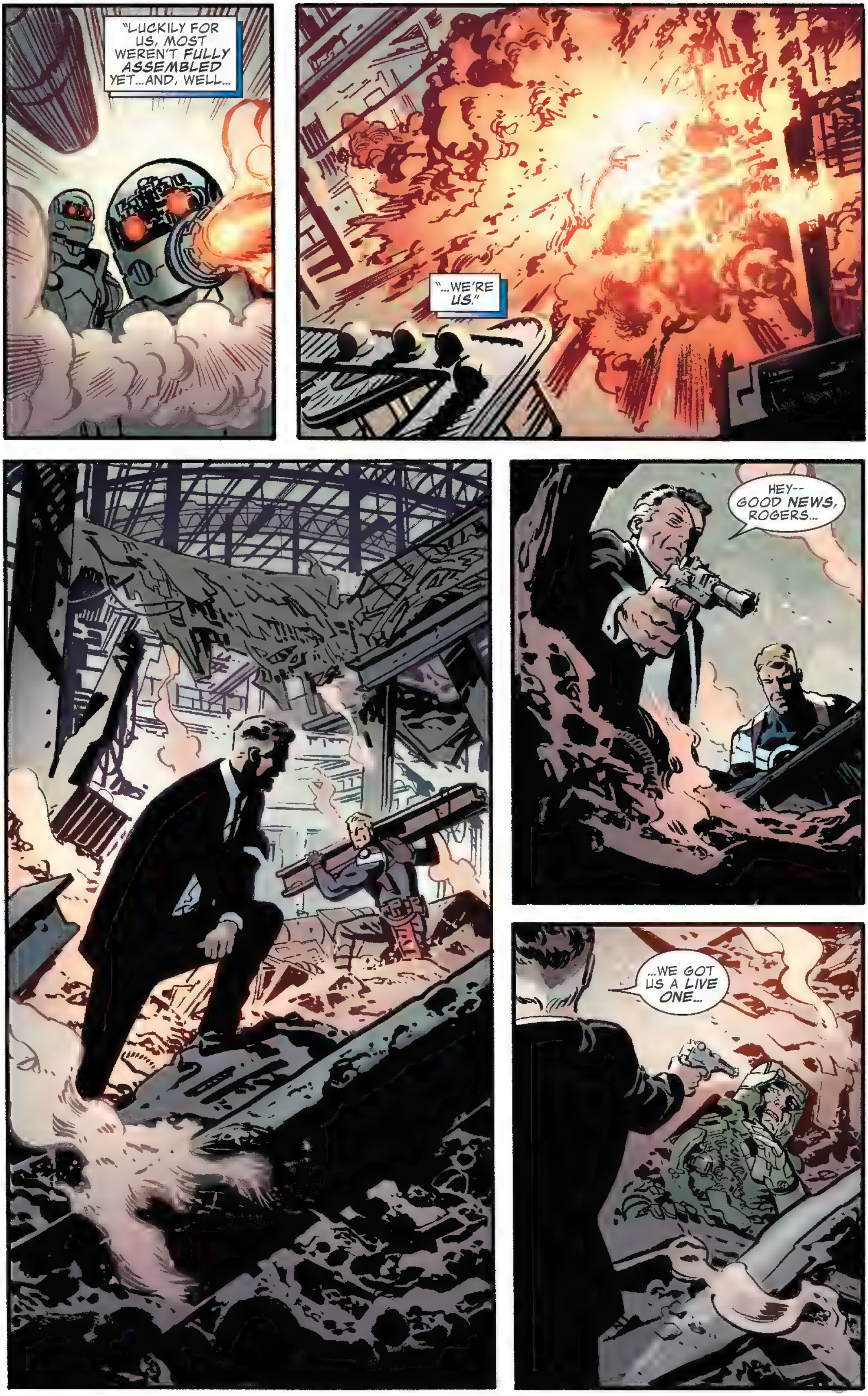

FIVE MINUTES LATER, WE'RE AIRBORNE... AND THE GROUND FINALLY FEELS *SOLID* UNDER ME.
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN...I DON'T KNOW *HOW* LONG.
I THOUGHT I'D FIND REDEMPTION BY ACCEPTING *RESPONSIBILITY*...
TAKING THE PUNISHMENT FOR EVERYTHING THE *WINTER SOLDIER* DID.
BUT I KNOW BETTER NOW... THERE ARE STILL THINGS *OUT THERE*...
DANGERS WITH *MY FINGERPRINTS* ON THEM.
THINGS I CAN *STOP*.
SO, I DON'T CARE IF I GET ON EVERY *WANTED LIST* IN THE WORLD...
BECAUSE I FINALLY KNOW WHAT I HAVE TO *DO*.

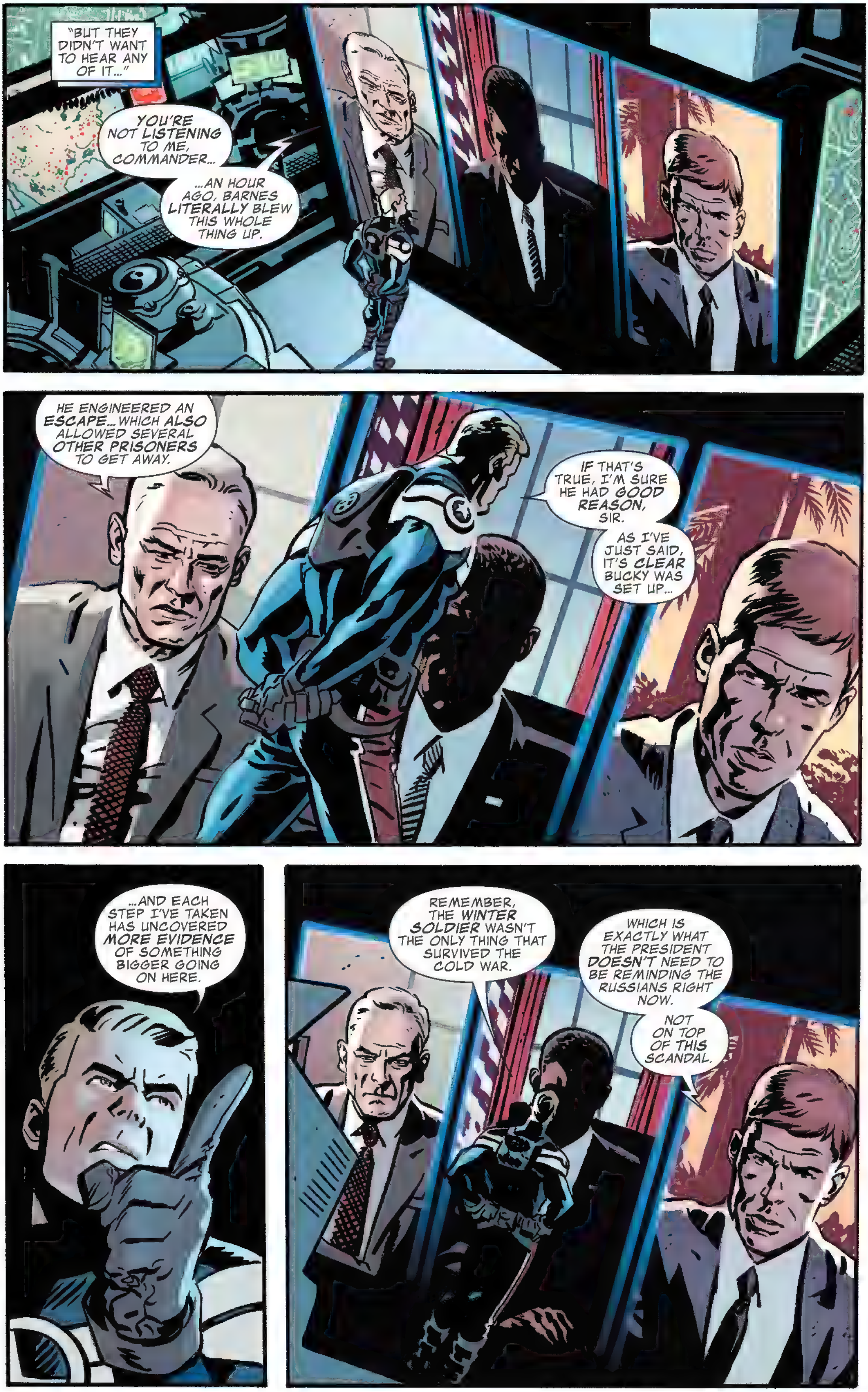

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
Avengers Tower
WHY ARE YOU BACK HERE, FURY?
I SAID STICK TO THE LIVING QUARTERS.
WHAT, I DON'T HAVE CLEARANCE FOR THE "CAP" TRIBUTE ROOM?

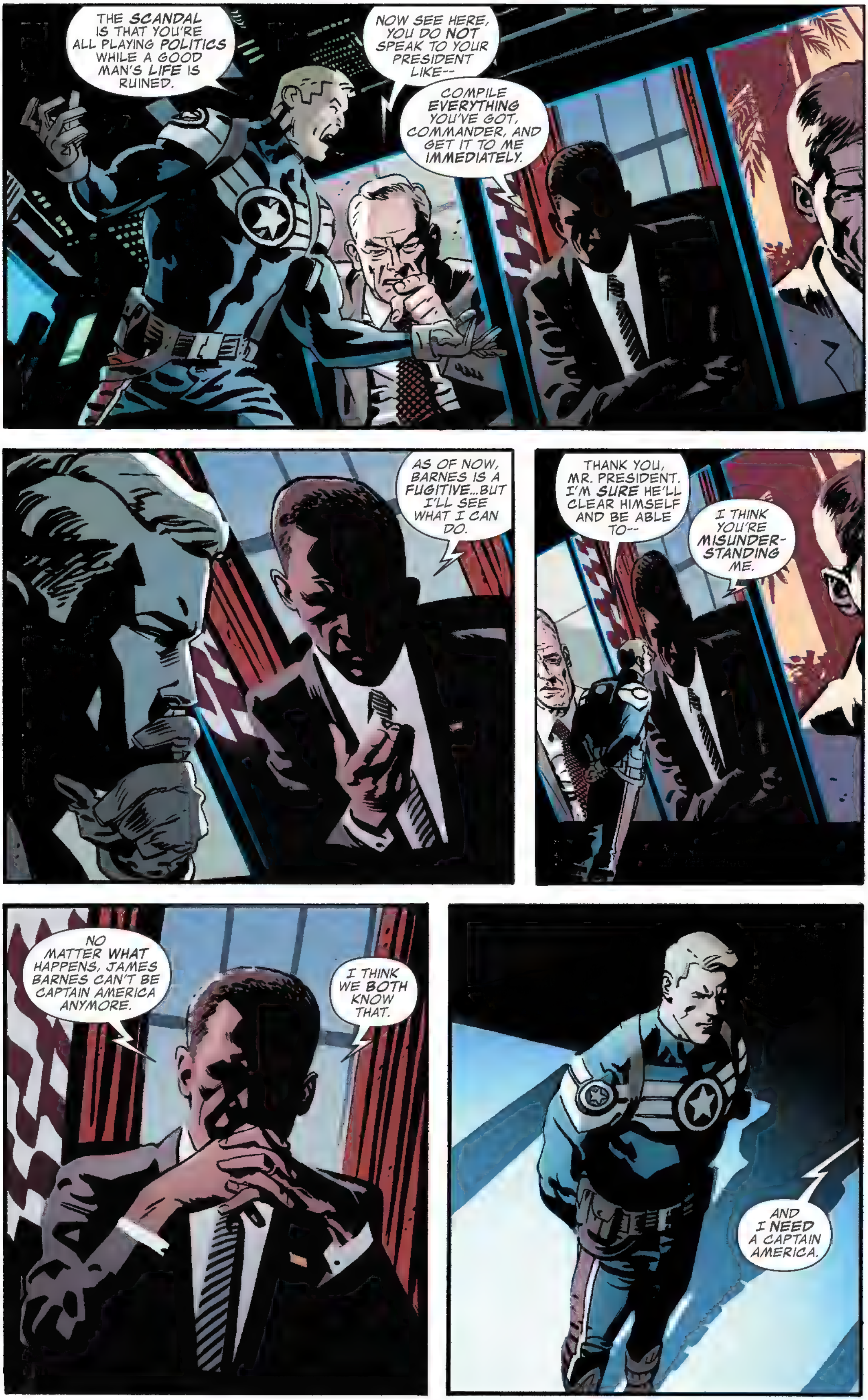
SUPER-SOLDIER

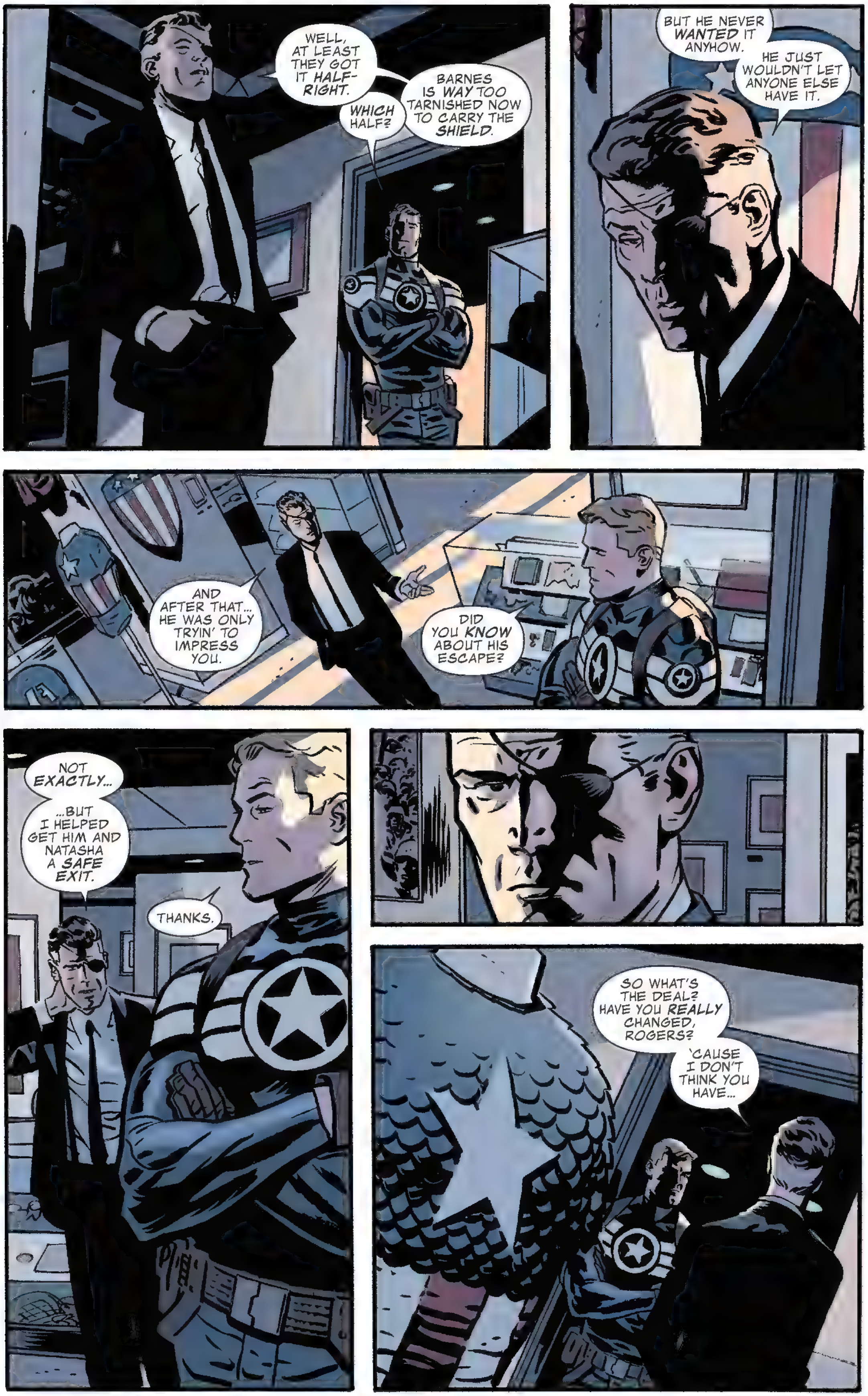

SO HOW DID YOUR REPORT GO OVER?
WHY DO I GET THE FEELING YOU ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT?
BECAUSE I'M NICK FURY... STILL... HUMOR ME.
WHAT HAPPENED?

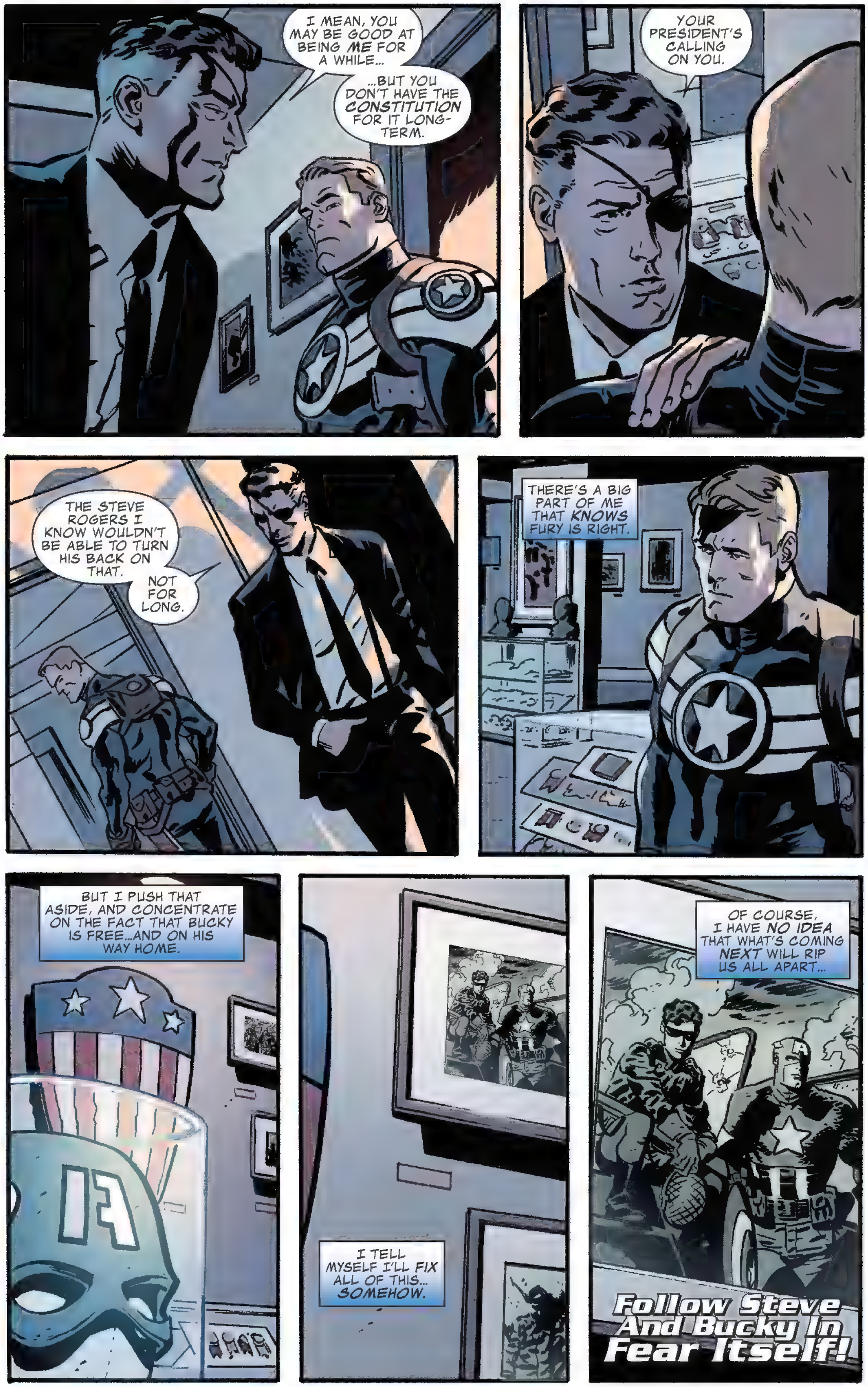

"I TOLD THEM EVERYTHING...HOW WE TRACKED THE DEAD SOVIET SLEEPER AGENT'S MOVEMENTS...
"...AND STUMBLED ONTO THE LAST PART OF THEIR COVER-UP EFFORT.
"A WAREHOUSE FULL OF ARMORED BATTLESUITS.


"LUCKILY FOR US, MOST WEREN'T FULLY ASSEMBLED YET...AND, WELL...
"...WE'RE US."
HEY-- GOOD NEWS, ROGERS...
...WE GOT US A LIVE ONE...


"BUT THEY DIDN'T WANT TO HEAR ANY OF IT..."
YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO ME, COMMANDER...
...AN HOUR AGO, BARNES LITERALLY BLEW THIS WHOLE THING UP.
HE ENGINEERED AN ESCAPE... WHICH ALSO ALLOWED SEVERAL OTHER PRISONERS TO GET AWAY.
IF THAT'S TRUE, I'M SURE HE HAD GOOD REASON, SIR.
AS I'VE JUST SAID, IT'S CLEAR BUCKY WAS SET UP...
...AND EACH STEP I'VE TAKEN HAS UNCOVERED MORE EVIDENCE OF SOMETHING BIGGER GOING ON HERE.
REMEMBER, THE WINTER SOLDIER WASN'T THE ONLY THING THAT SURVIVED THE COLD WAR.
WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT THE PRESIDENT DOESN'T NEED TO BE REMINDING THE RUSSIANS RIGHT NOW.
NOT ON TOP OF THIS SCANDAL.


THE **SCANDAL** IS THAT YOU'RE ALL PLAYING **POLITICS** WHILE A GOOD MAN'S **LIFE** IS RUINED.
NOW SEE HERE, YOU DO **NOT** SPEAK TO YOUR PRESIDENT LIKE--
COMPILE **EVERYTHING** YOU'VE GOT, COMMANDER, AND GET IT TO ME **IMMEDIATELY.**
AS OF NOW, BARNES IS A **FUGITIVE**...BUT I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO.
THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I'M **SURE** HE'LL CLEAR HIMSELF AND BE ABLE TO--
I THINK YOU'RE **MISUNDERSTANDING** ME.
NO MATTER **WHAT** HAPPENS, JAMES BARNES CAN'T BE CAPTAIN AMERICA ANYMORE.
I THINK WE **BOTH** KNOW THAT.
AND I **NEED** A CAPTAIN AMERICA.


WELL, AT LEAST THEY GOT IT HALF-RIGHT.
WHICH HALF?
BARNES IS WAY TOO TARNISHED NOW TO CARRY THE SHIELD.
BUT HE NEVER WANTED IT ANYHOW.
HE JUST WOULDN'T LET ANYONE ELSE HAVE IT.
AND AFTER THAT... HE WAS ONLY TRYIN' TO IMPRESS YOU.
DID YOU KNOW ABOUT HIS ESCAPE?
NOT EXACTLY...
...BUT I HELPED GET HIM AND NATASHA A SAFE EXIT.
THANKS.
SO WHAT'S THE DEAL? HAVE YOU REALLY CHANGED, ROGERS?
'CAUSE I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE...


I MEAN, YOU MAY BE GOOD AT BEING *ME* FOR A WHILE...
...BUT YOU DON'T HAVE THE *CONSTITUTION* FOR IT LONG-TERM.
YOUR PRESIDENT'S CALLING ON YOU.
THE STEVE ROGERS I KNOW WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO TURN HIS BACK ON THAT.
NOT FOR LONG.
THERE'S A BIG PART OF ME THAT *KNOWS* FURY IS RIGHT.
BUT I PUSH THAT ASIDE, AND CONCENTRATE ON THE FACT THAT BUCKY IS FREE...AND ON HIS WAY HOME.
I TELL MYSELF I'LL *FIX* ALL OF THIS... *SOMEHOW*.
OF COURSE, I HAVE *NO IDEA* THAT WHAT'S COMING *NEXT* WILL RIP US ALL APART...
Follow Steve And Bucky In Fear Itself!

ED BRUBAKER
STEVE MCNIVEN
CAPTAIN AMERICA
#1
MNV
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DURING THE DARK DAYS OF THE EARLY 1940S, A COVERT MILITARY EXPERIMENT TURNED STEVE ROGERS INTO AMERICA'S FIRST SUPER-SOLDIER, CAPTAIN AMERICA. THROUGHOUT THE WAR, CAP AND HIS PARTNER BUCKY FOUGHT ALONGSIDE OUR INFANTRY AND WITH A GROUP OF HEROES KNOWN AS THE INVADERS. IN THE CLOSING MONTHS OF WWII, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WERE BOTH PRESUMED DEAD IN AN EXPLOSION OVER THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

DECADES LATER, A FIGURE WAS FOUND TRAPPED IN ICE, AND CAPTAIN AMERICA WAS REVIVED. HAVING SLEPT THROUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE 20TH CENTURY, STEVE ROGERS AWAKENED TO A WORLD HE NEVER IMAGINED. A WORLD WHERE WAR HAD MOVED FROM THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE CITY STREETS...A WORLD IN DIRE NEED OF...

CAPTAIN AMERICA

AMERICAN DREAMERS PART 1

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CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED BY **JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY**

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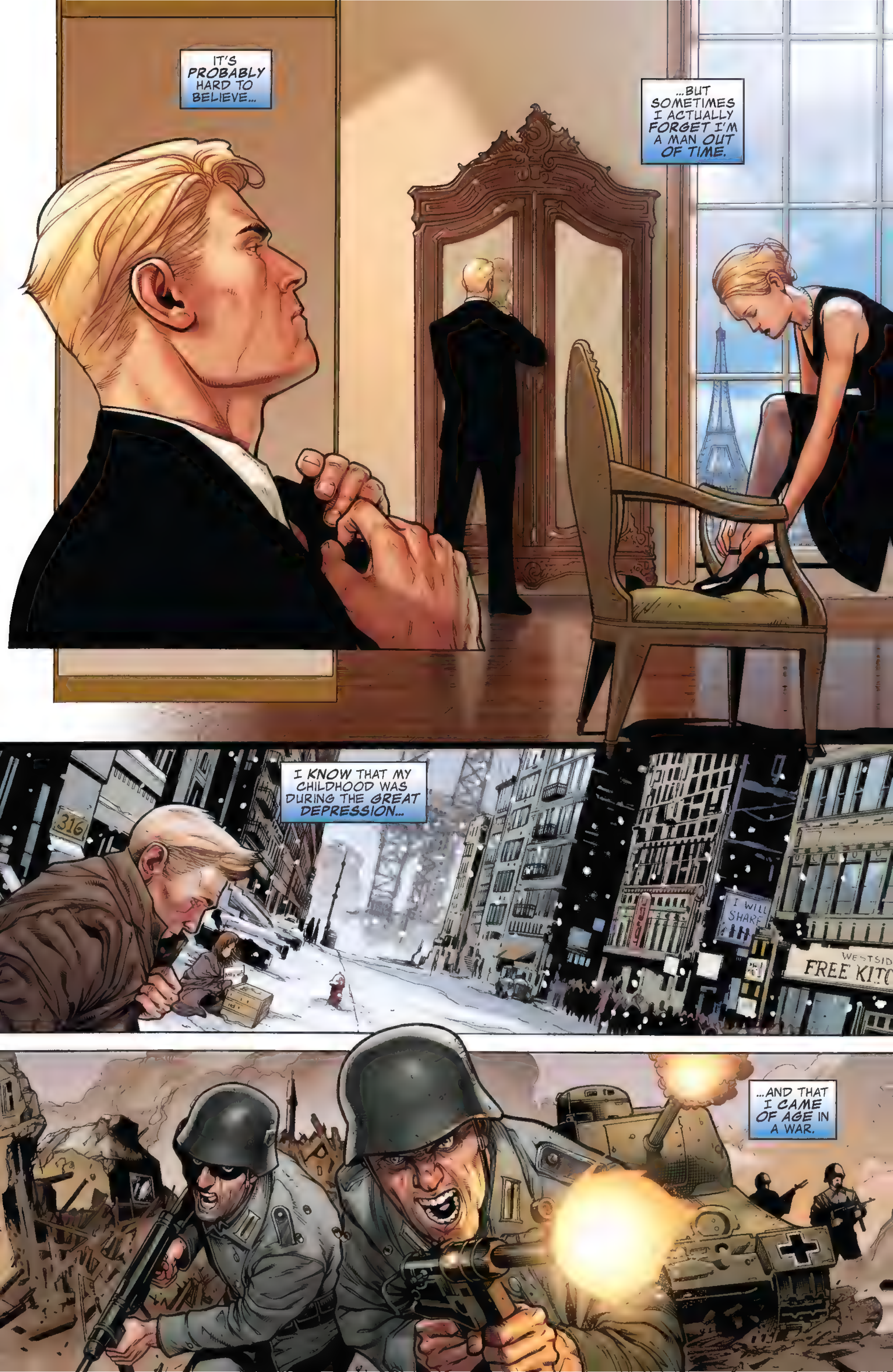
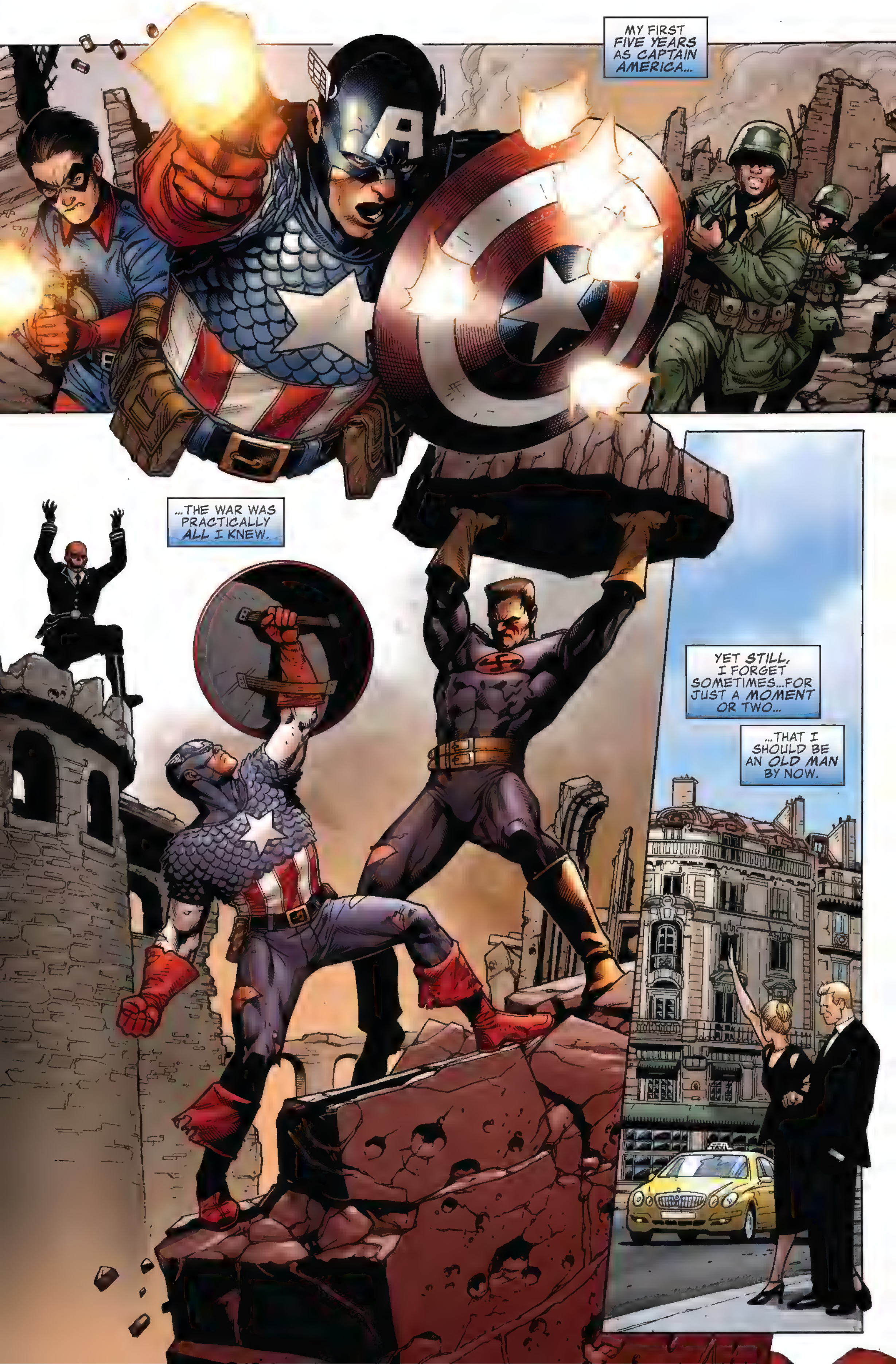
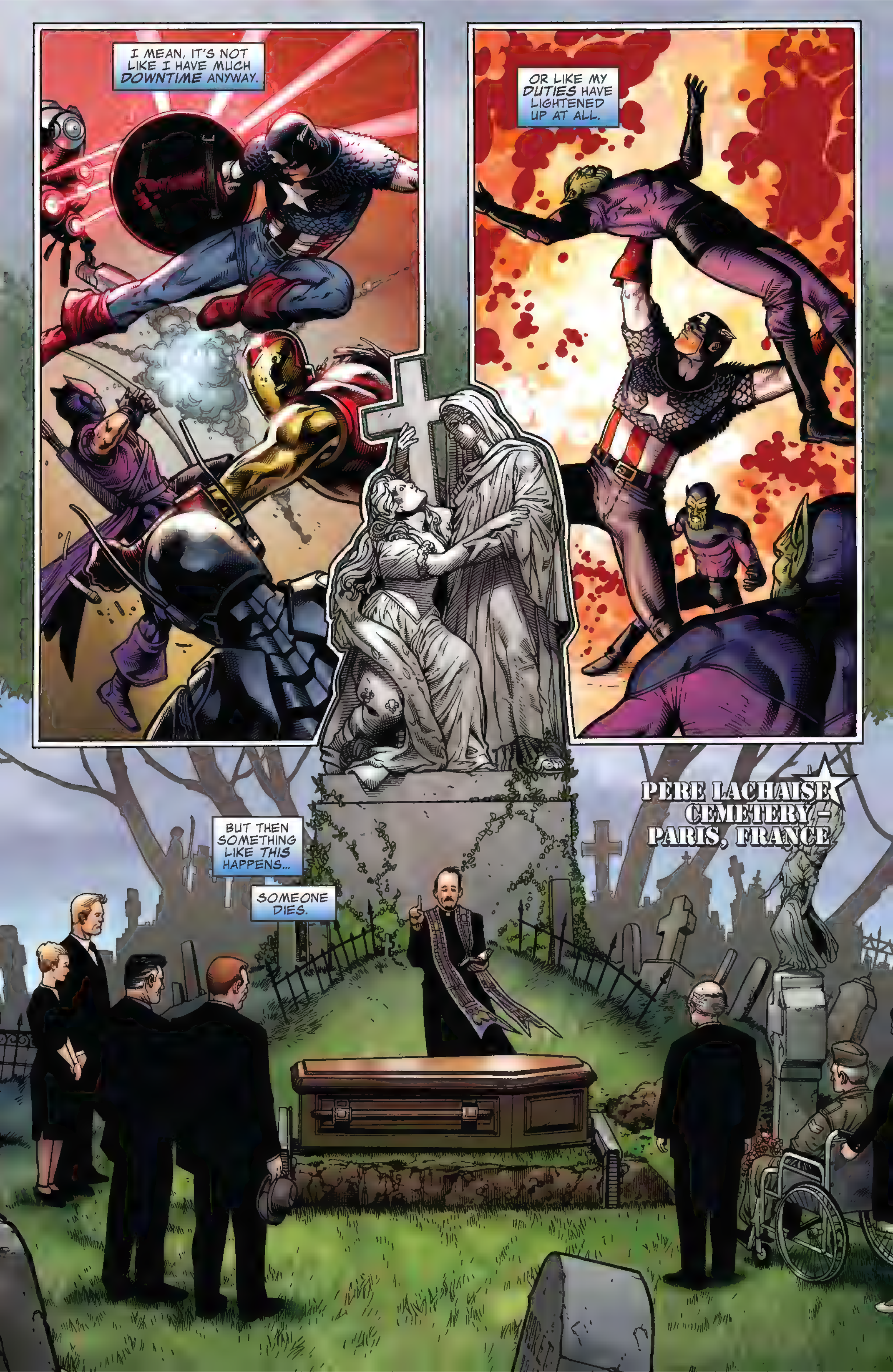
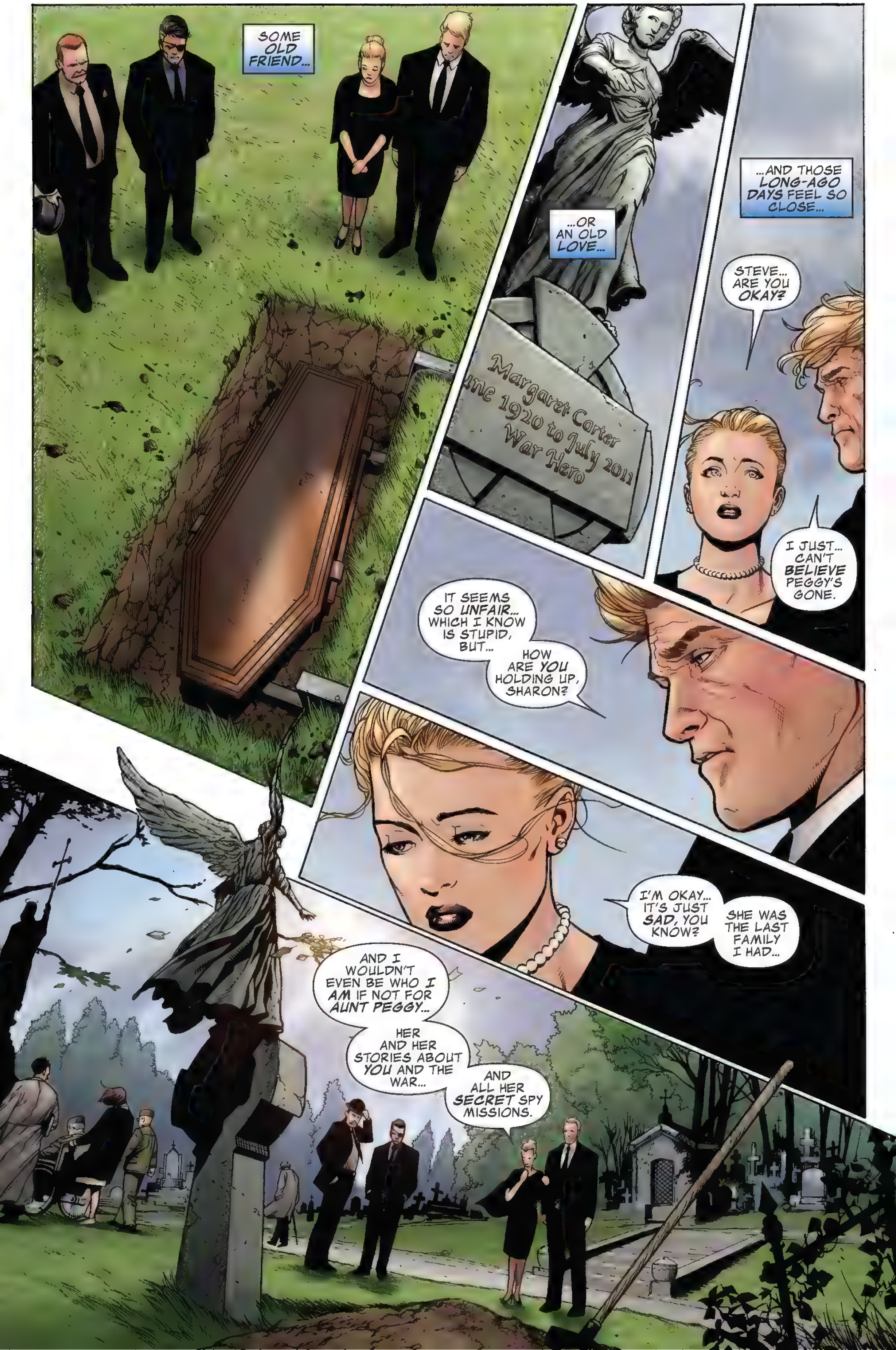
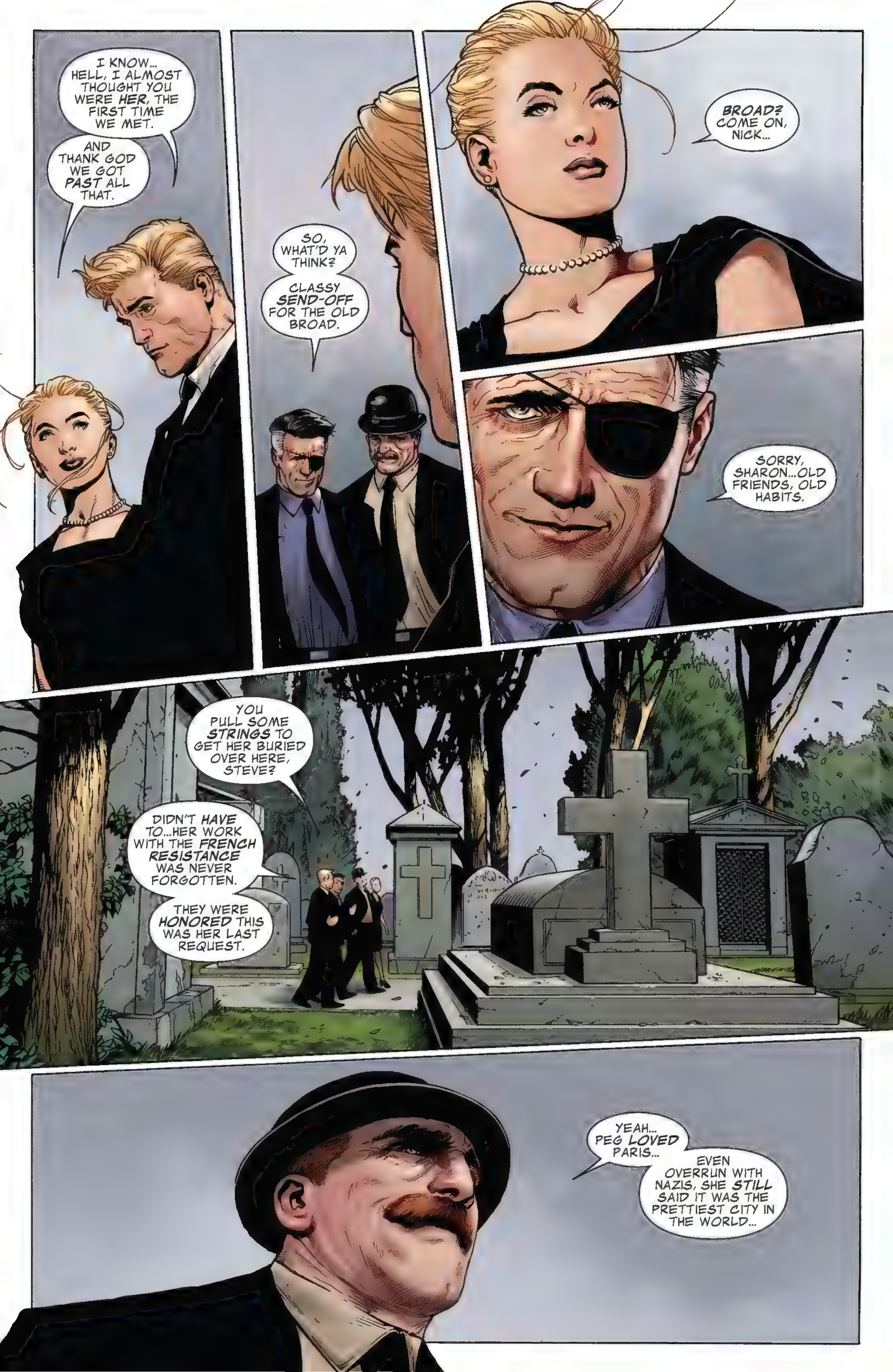
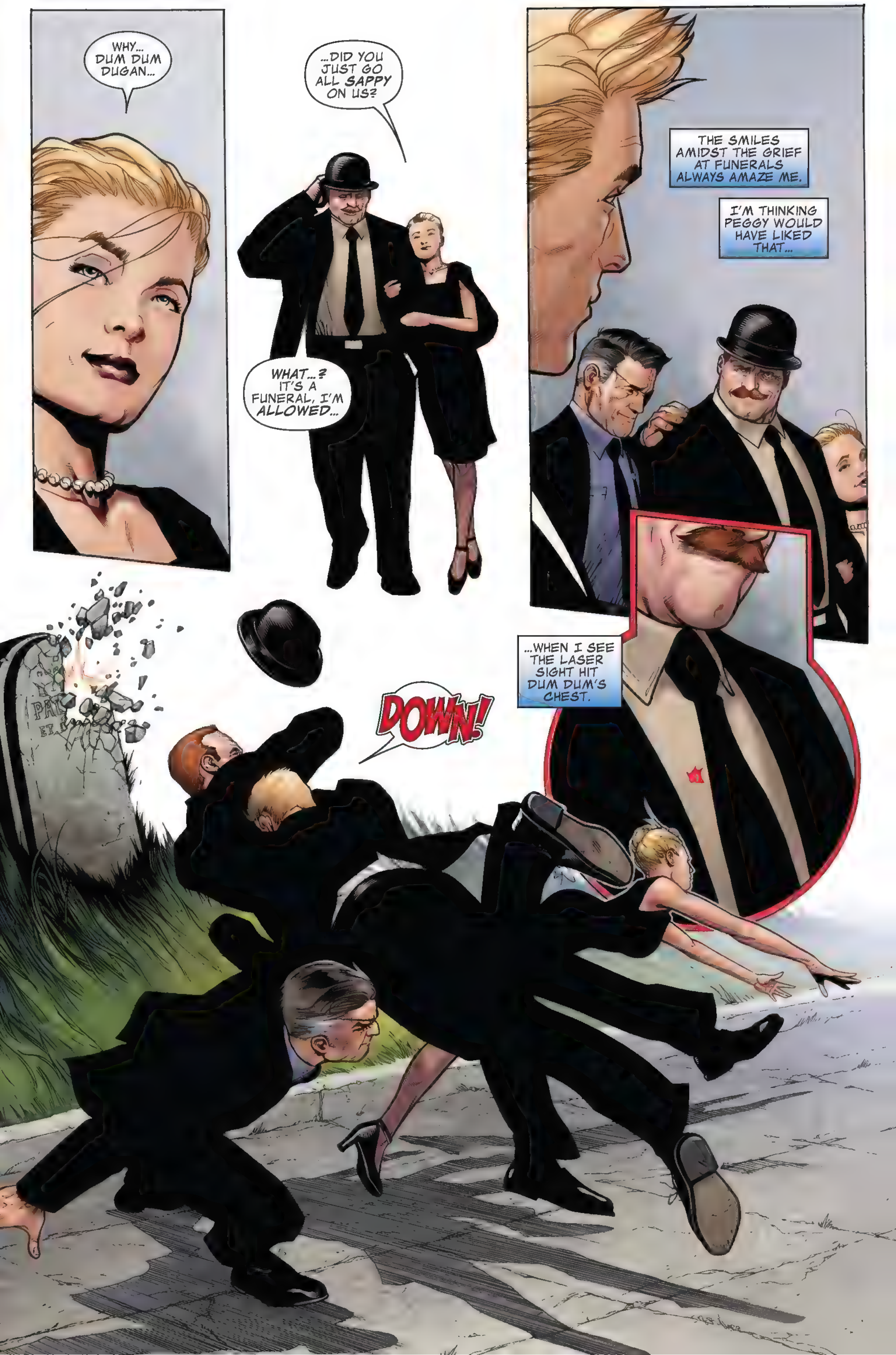

IT'S PROBABLY HARD TO BELIEVE...
...BUT SOMETIMES I ACTUALLY FORGET I'M A MAN OUT OF TIME.
I KNOW THAT MY CHILDHOOD WAS DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION...
316
I WILL SHARE
WESTSID
FREE KITC
...AND THAT I CAME OF AGE IN A WAR.

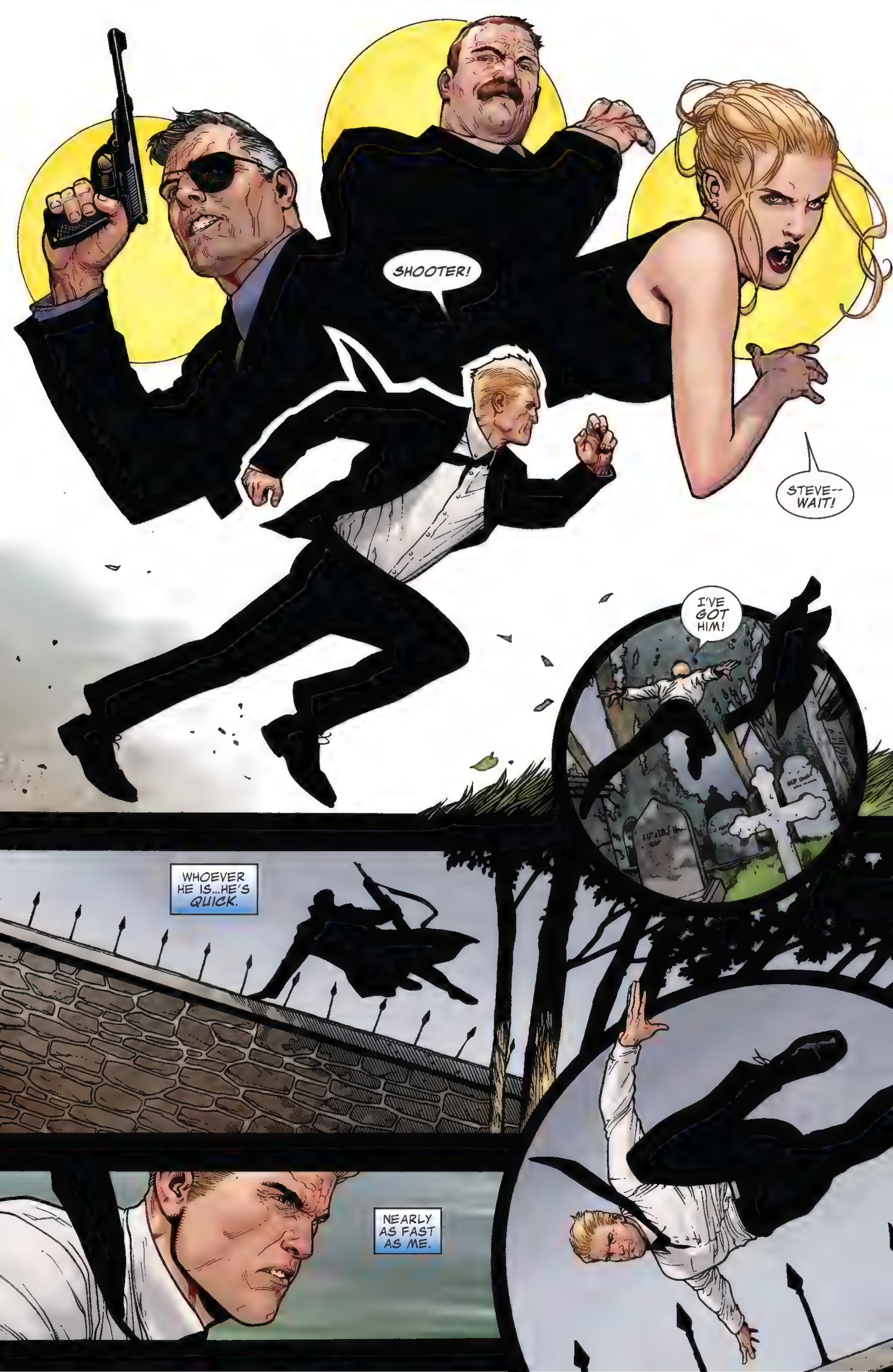

MY FIRST *FIVE YEARS* AS *CAPTAIN AMERICA*...
...THE WAR WAS PRACTICALLY *ALL* I KNEW.
YET *STILL*, I FORGET SOMETIMES...FOR JUST A *MOMENT* OR TWO...
...THAT I SHOULD BE AN *OLD MAN* BY NOW.

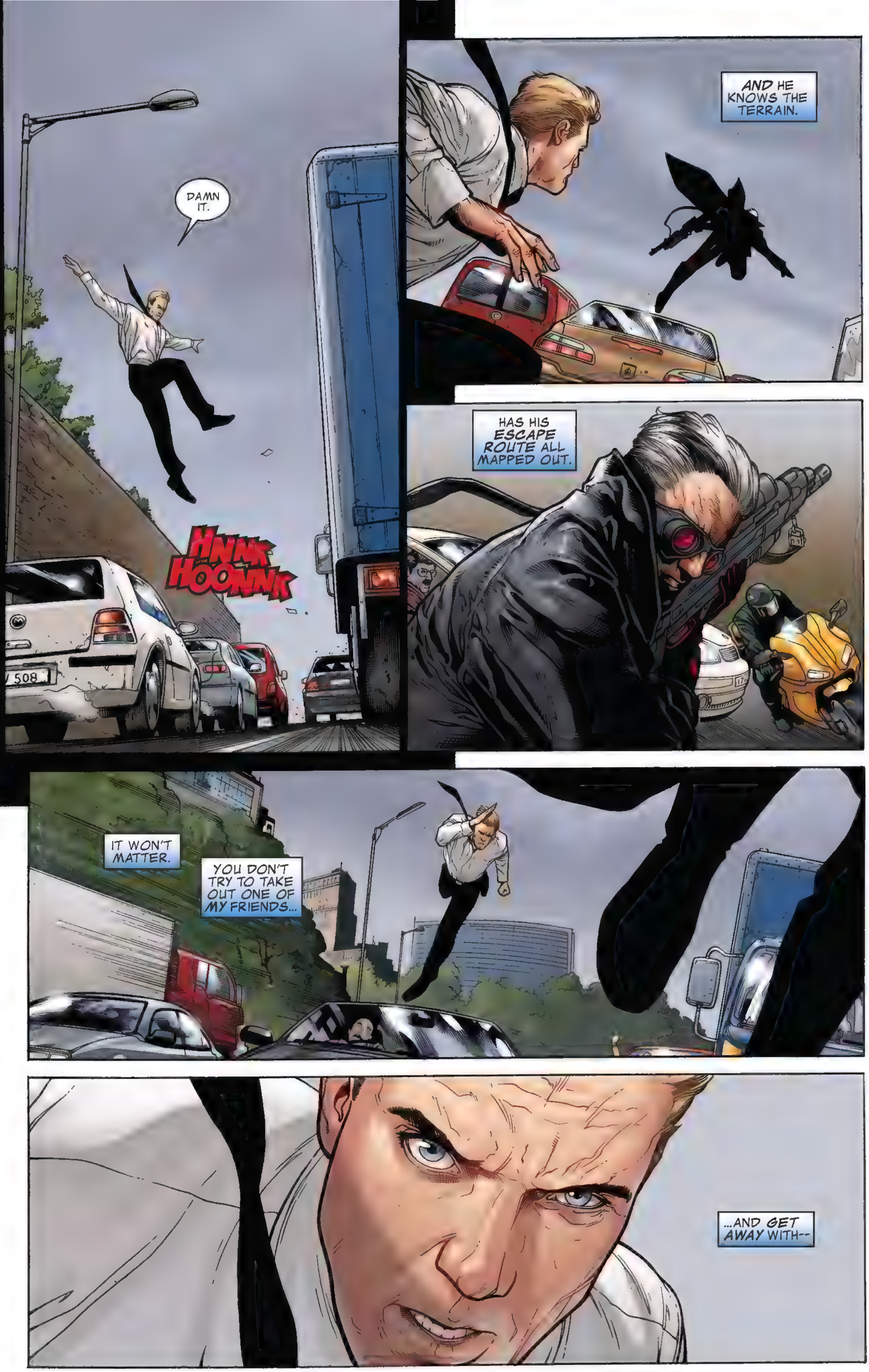

I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE MUCH *DOWNTIME* ANYWAY.
OR LIKE MY *DUTIES* HAVE LIGHTENED UP AT ALL.
PÈRE LACHAISE CEMETERY – PARIS, FRANCE
BUT THEN SOMETHING LIKE *THIS* HAPPENS...
SOMEONE DIES.

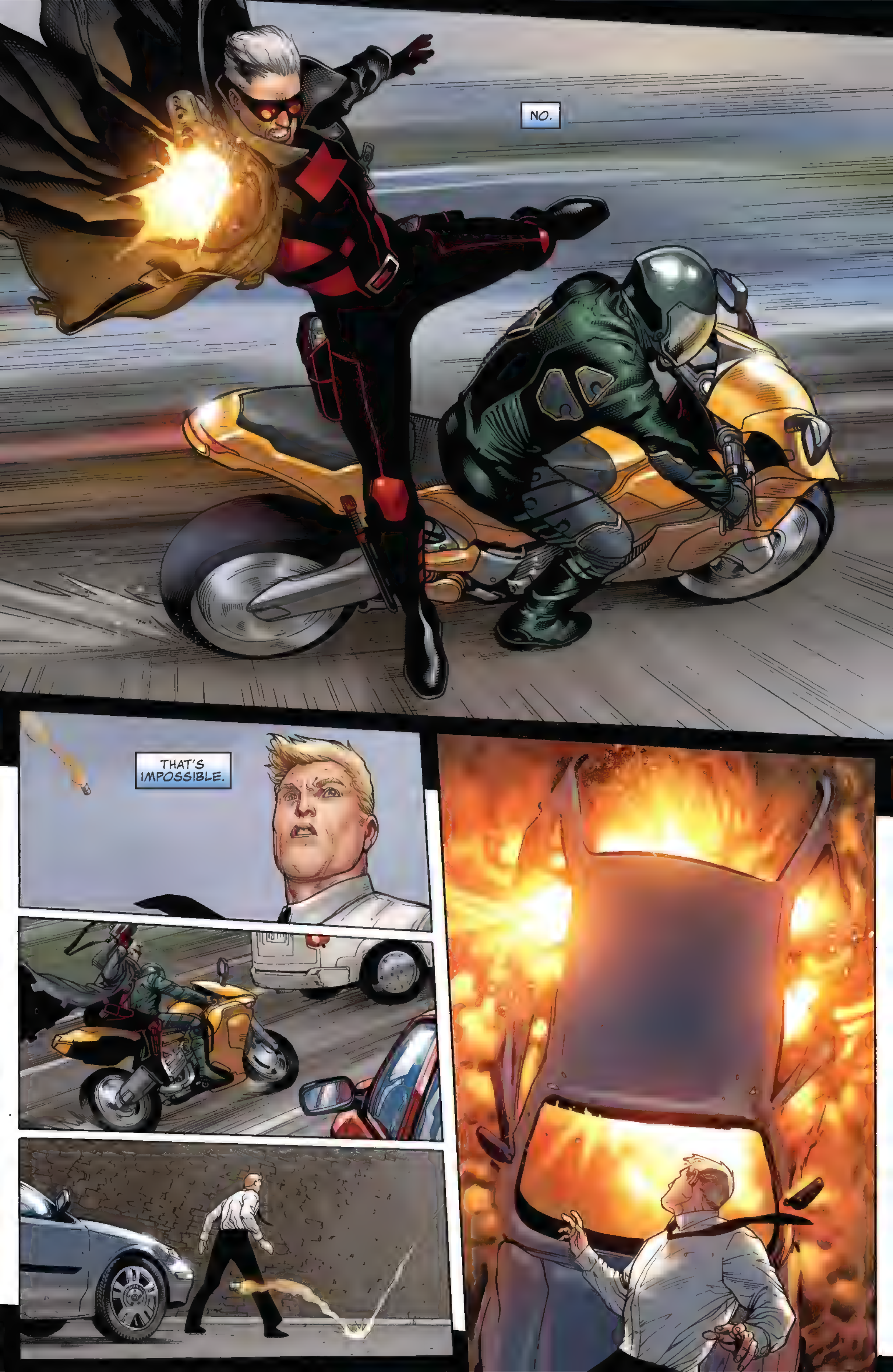

SOME OLD FRIEND...
...OR AN OLD LOVE...
Margaret Carter
une 1920 to July 2011
War Hero
...AND THOSE LONG-AGO DAYS FEEL SO CLOSE...
STEVE... ARE YOU OKAY?
I JUST... CAN'T BELIEVE PEGGY'S GONE.
IT SEEMS SO UNFAIR... WHICH I KNOW IS STUPID, BUT...
HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP, SHARON?
I'M OKAY... IT'S JUST SAD, YOU KNOW?
SHE WAS THE LAST FAMILY I HAD...
AND I WOULDN'T EVEN BE WHO I AM IF NOT FOR AUNT PEGGY...
HER AND HER STORIES ABOUT YOU AND THE WAR...
AND ALL HER SECRET SPY MISSIONS.

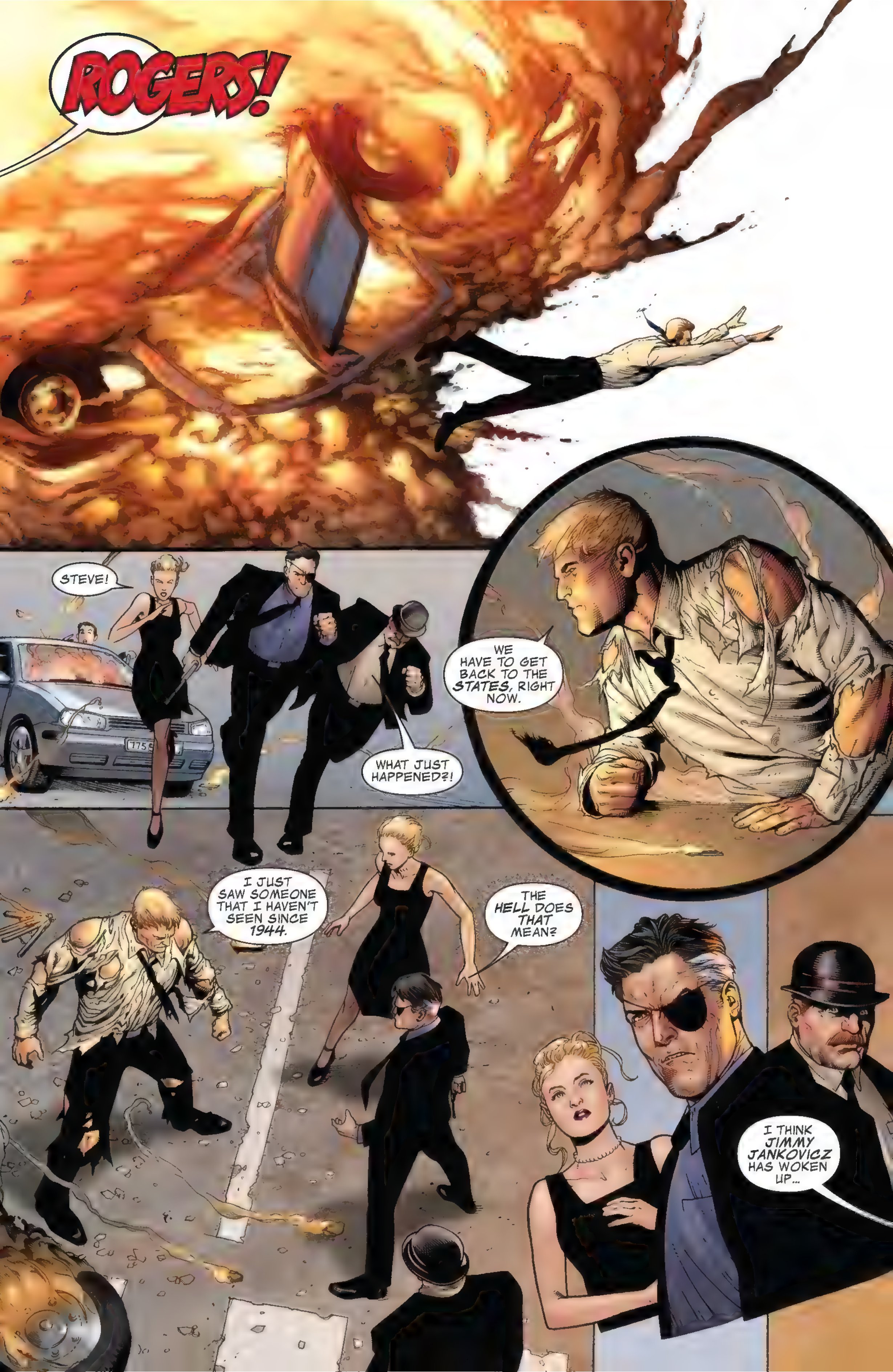

I KNOW... HELL, I ALMOST THOUGHT YOU WERE *HER*, THE FIRST TIME WE MET.
AND THANK GOD WE GOT *PAST* ALL THAT.
SO, WHAT'D YA THINK?
CLASSY *SEND-OFF* FOR THE OLD BROAD.
BROAD? COME ON, NICK...
SORRY, SHARON...OLD FRIENDS, OLD HABITS.
YOU PULL SOME *STRINGS* TO GET HER BURIED OVER HERE, STEVE?
DIDN'T *HAVE* TO...HER WORK WITH THE *FRENCH RESISTANCE* WAS NEVER FORGOTTEN.
THEY WERE *HONORED* THIS WAS HER LAST REQUEST.
YEAH... PEG *LOVED* PARIS...
EVEN OVERRUN WITH NAZIS, SHE *STILL* SAID IT WAS THE PRETTIEST CITY IN THE WORLD...

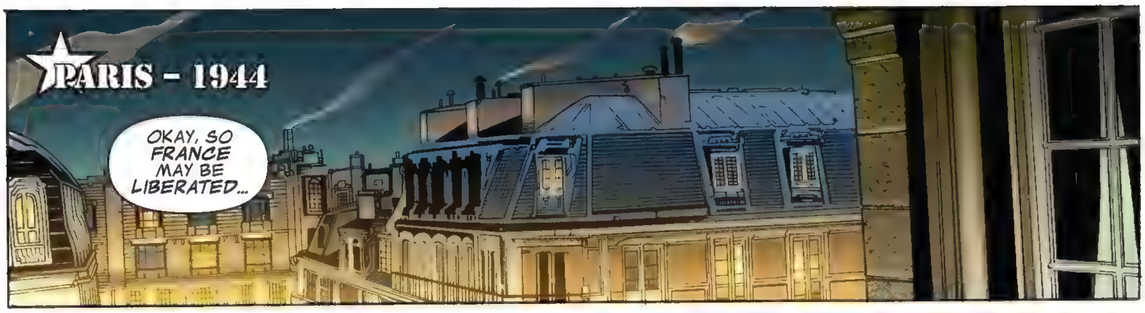

WHY... DUM DUM DUGAN...
...DID YOU JUST GO ALL *SAPPY* ON US?
WHAT...? IT'S A FUNERAL, I'M *ALLOWED*...
THE SMILES AMIDST THE GRIEF AT FUNERALS ALWAYS AMAZE ME.
I'M THINKING PEGGY WOULD HAVE LIKED THAT...
...WHEN I SEE THE LASER SIGHT HIT DUM DUM'S CHEST.
DOWN!
PA
ET

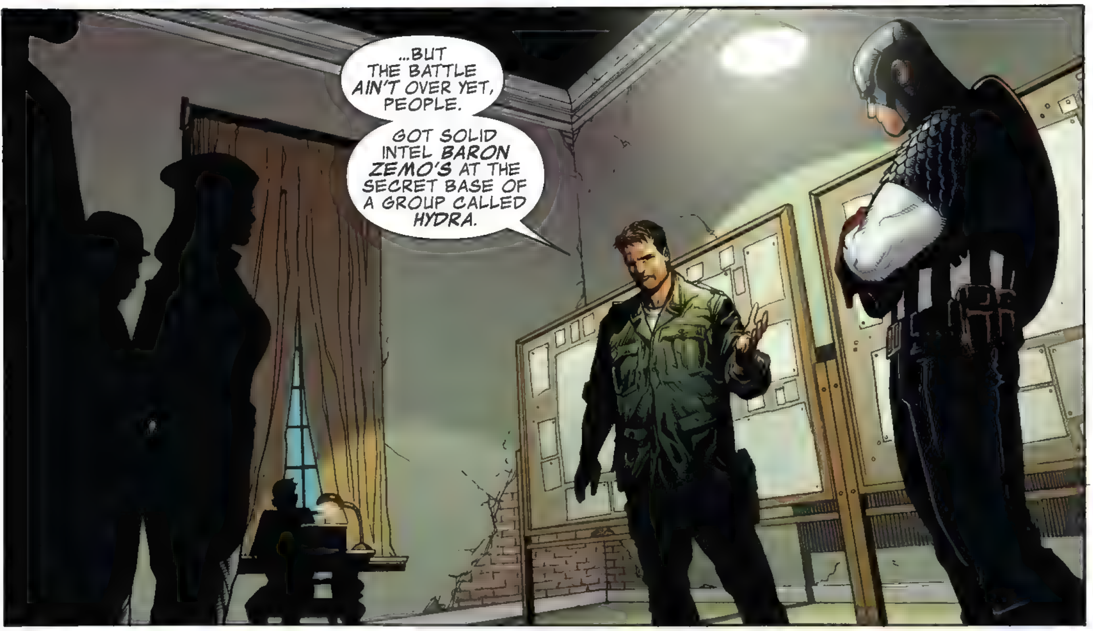

SHOOTER!
STEVE--
WAIT!
I'VE
GOT
HIM!
WHOEVER
HE IS...HE'S
QUICK.
NEARLY
AS FAST
AS ME.

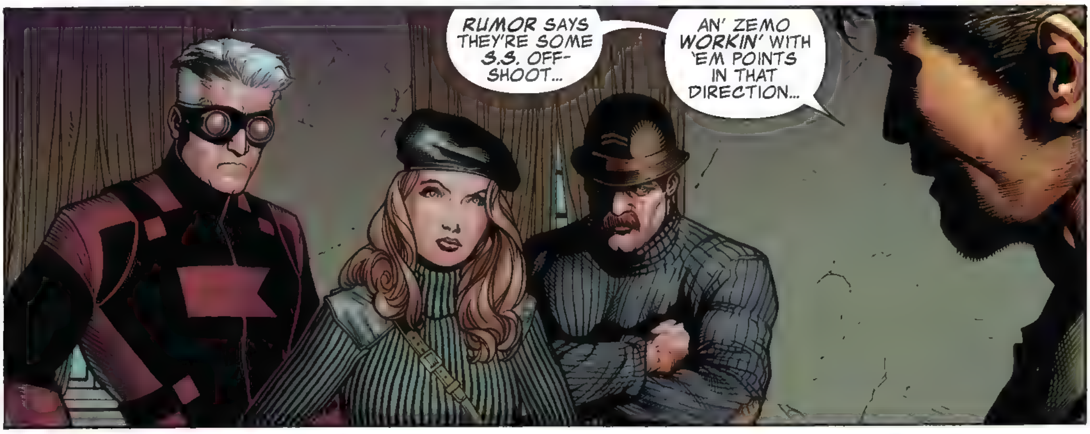

DAMN IT.
HNNK HOONNK
AND HE KNOWS THE TERRAIN.
HAS HIS ESCAPE ROUTE ALL MAPPED OUT.
IT WON'T MATTER.
YOU DON'T TRY TO TAKE OUT ONE OF MY FRIENDS...
...AND GET AWAY WITH--

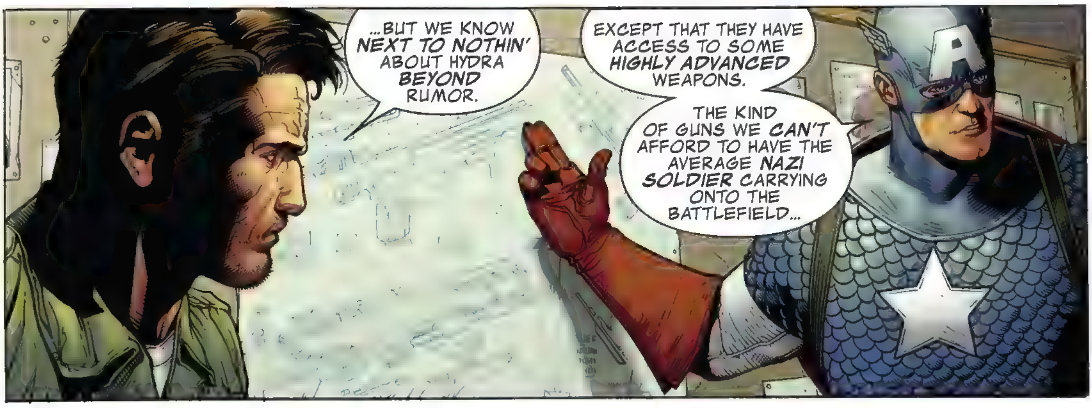

NO.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

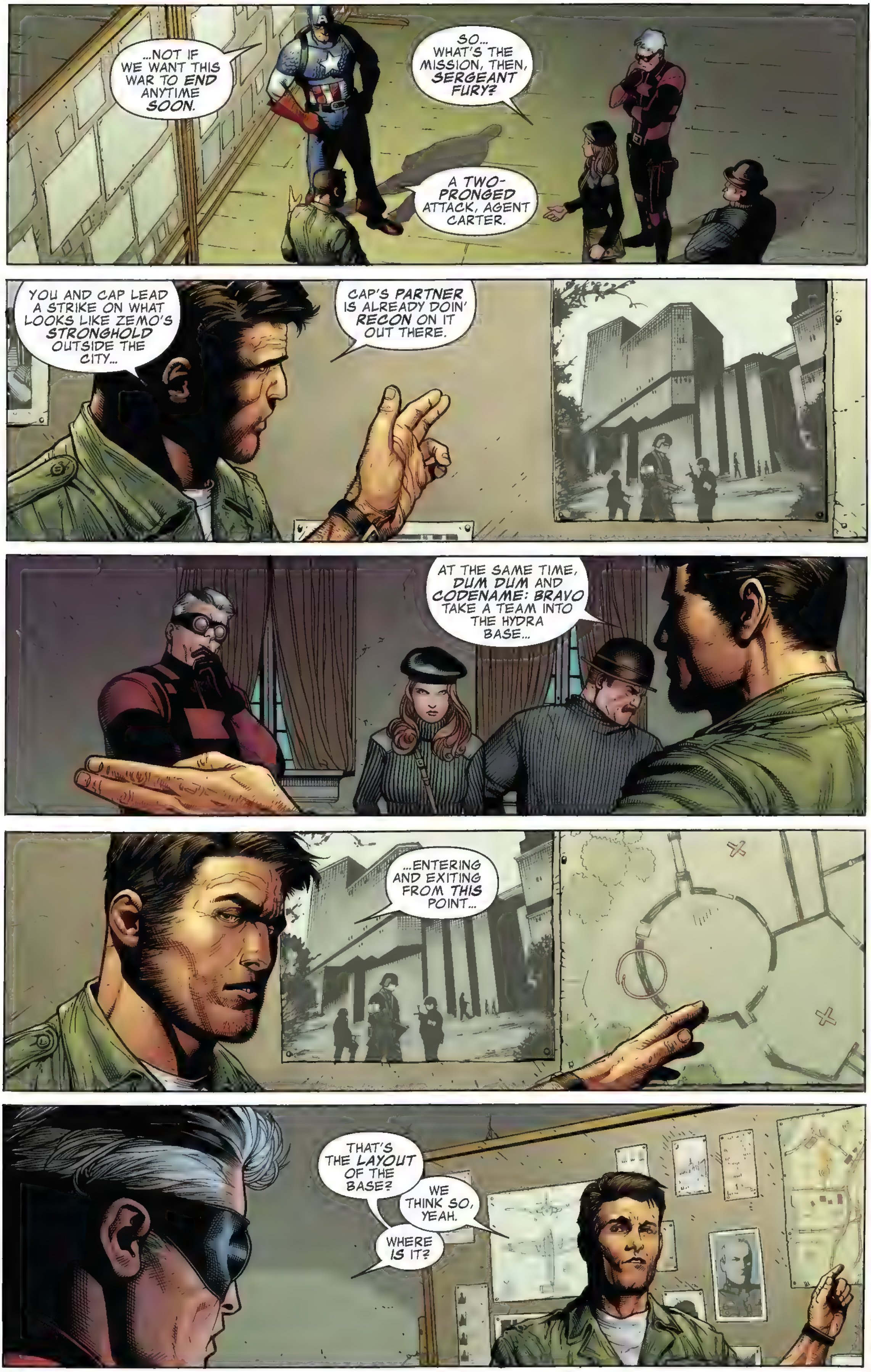

ROGERS!
STEVE!
WHAT JUST HAPPENED?!
WE HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE STATES, RIGHT NOW.
I JUST SAW SOMEONE THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN SINCE 1944.
THE HELL DOES THAT MEAN?
I THINK JIMMY JANKOVICZ HAS WOKEN UP...

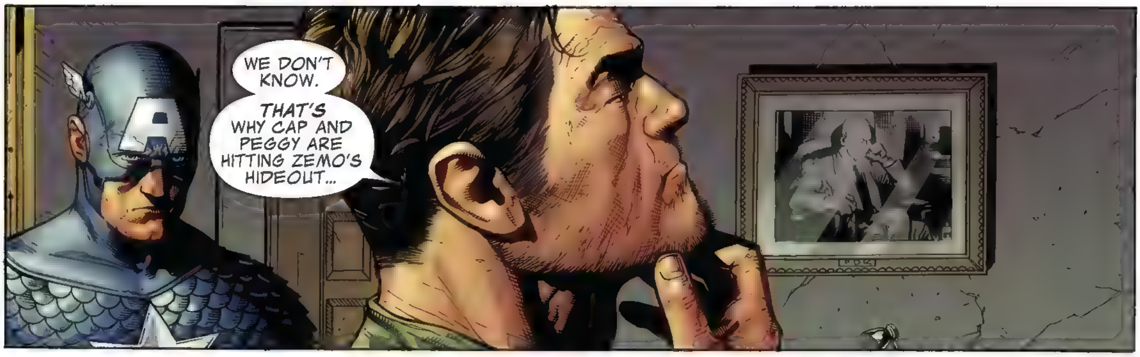

PARIS - 1944
OKAY, SO FRANCE MAY BE LIBERATED...

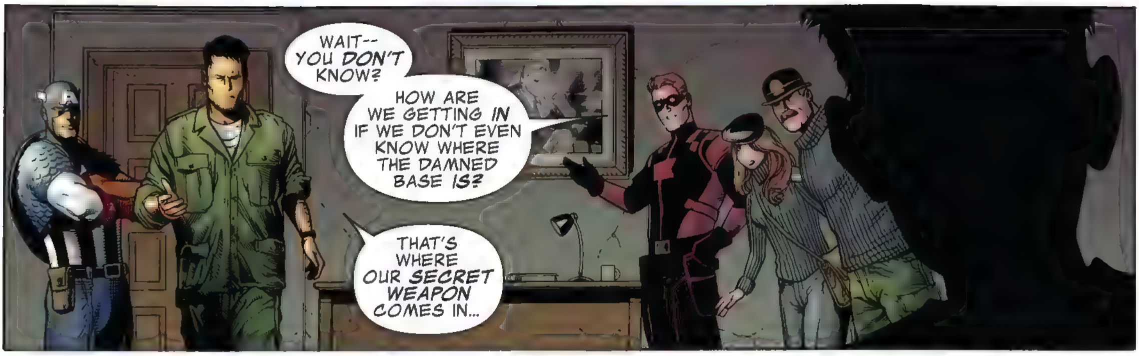

...BUT THE BATTLE AIN'T OVER YET, PEOPLE.
GOT SOLID INTEL BARON ZEMO'S AT THE SECRET BASE OF A GROUP CALLED HYDRA.

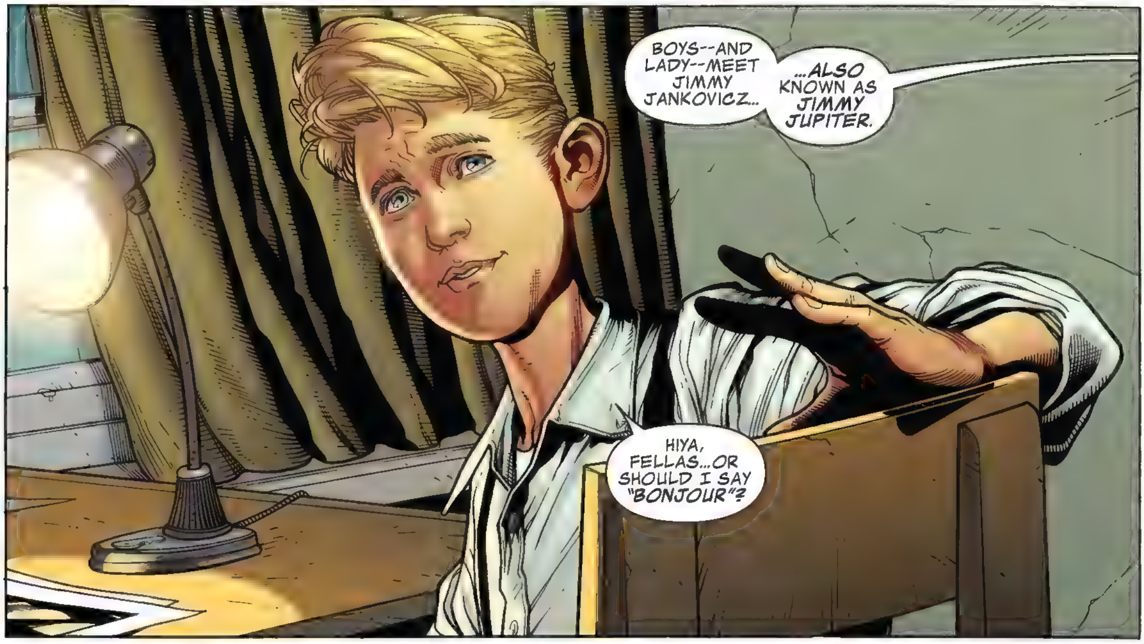

RUMOR SAYS THEY'RE SOME S.S. OFF-SHOOT...
AN' ZEMO WORKIN' WITH 'EM POINTS IN THAT DIRECTION...

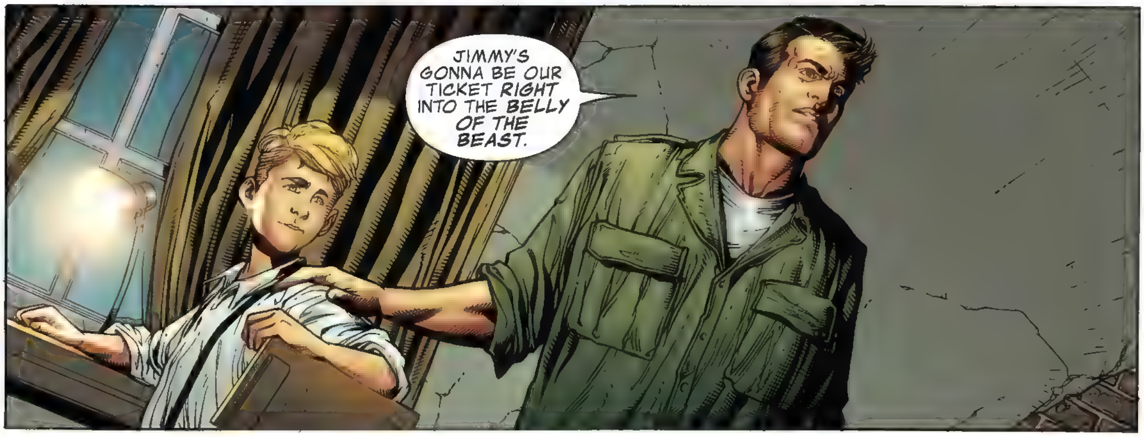

...BUT WE KNOW NEXT TO NOTHIN' ABOUT HYDRA BEYOND RUMOR.
EXCEPT THAT THEY HAVE ACCESS TO SOME HIGHLY ADVANCED WEAPONS.
THE KIND OF GUNS WE CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE THE AVERAGE NAZI SOLDIER CARRYING ONTO THE BATTLEFIELD...

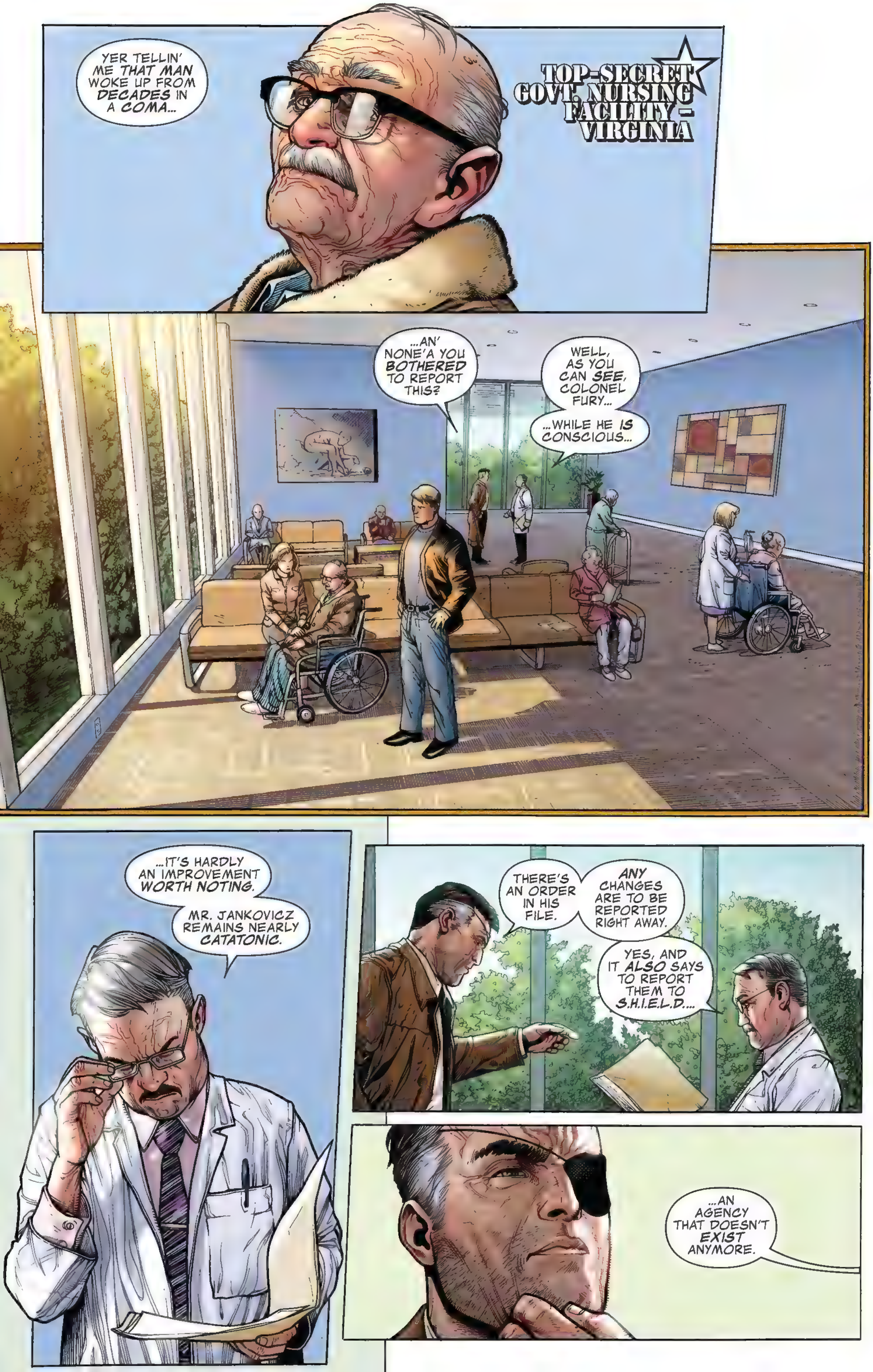

...NOT IF WE WANT THIS WAR TO **END** ANYTIME **SOON.**
SO... WHAT'S THE MISSION, THEN, **SERGEANT FURY?**
A **TWO-PRONGED** ATTACK, AGENT CARTER.
YOU AND CAP LEAD A STRIKE ON WHAT LOOKS LIKE ZEMO'S **STRONGHOLD** OUTSIDE THE CITY...
CAP'S **PARTNER** IS ALREADY DOIN' **RECON** ON IT OUT THERE.
AT THE SAME TIME, **DUM DUM** AND **CODENAME: BRAVO** TAKE A TEAM INTO THE HYDRA BASE...
...ENTERING AND EXITING FROM **THIS** POINT...
THAT'S THE **LAYOUT** OF THE BASE?
WE THINK SO, YEAH.
WHERE **IS** IT?

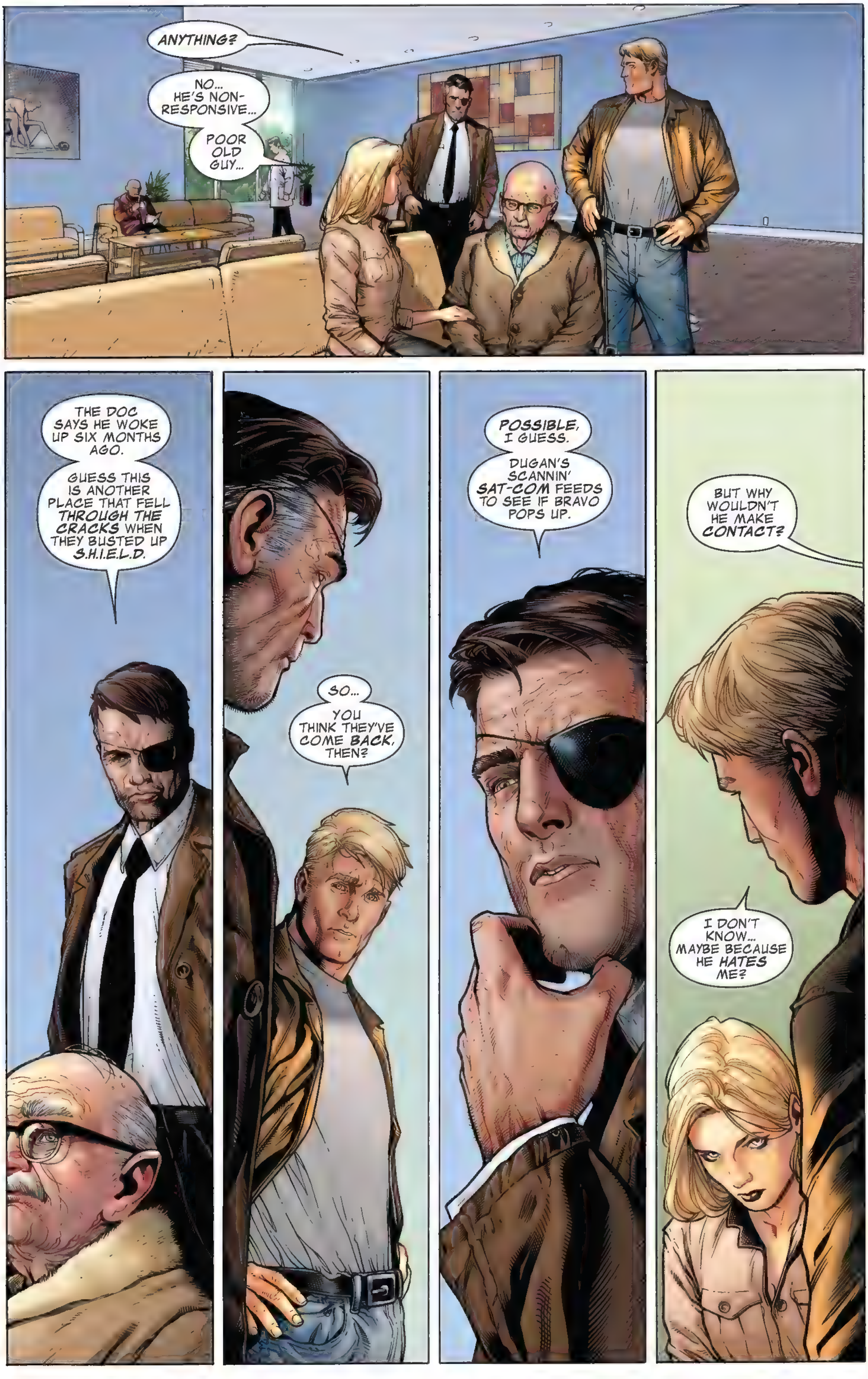

WE DON'T KNOW. *THAT'S* WHY CAP AND PEGGY ARE HITTING ZEMO'S HIDEOUT...

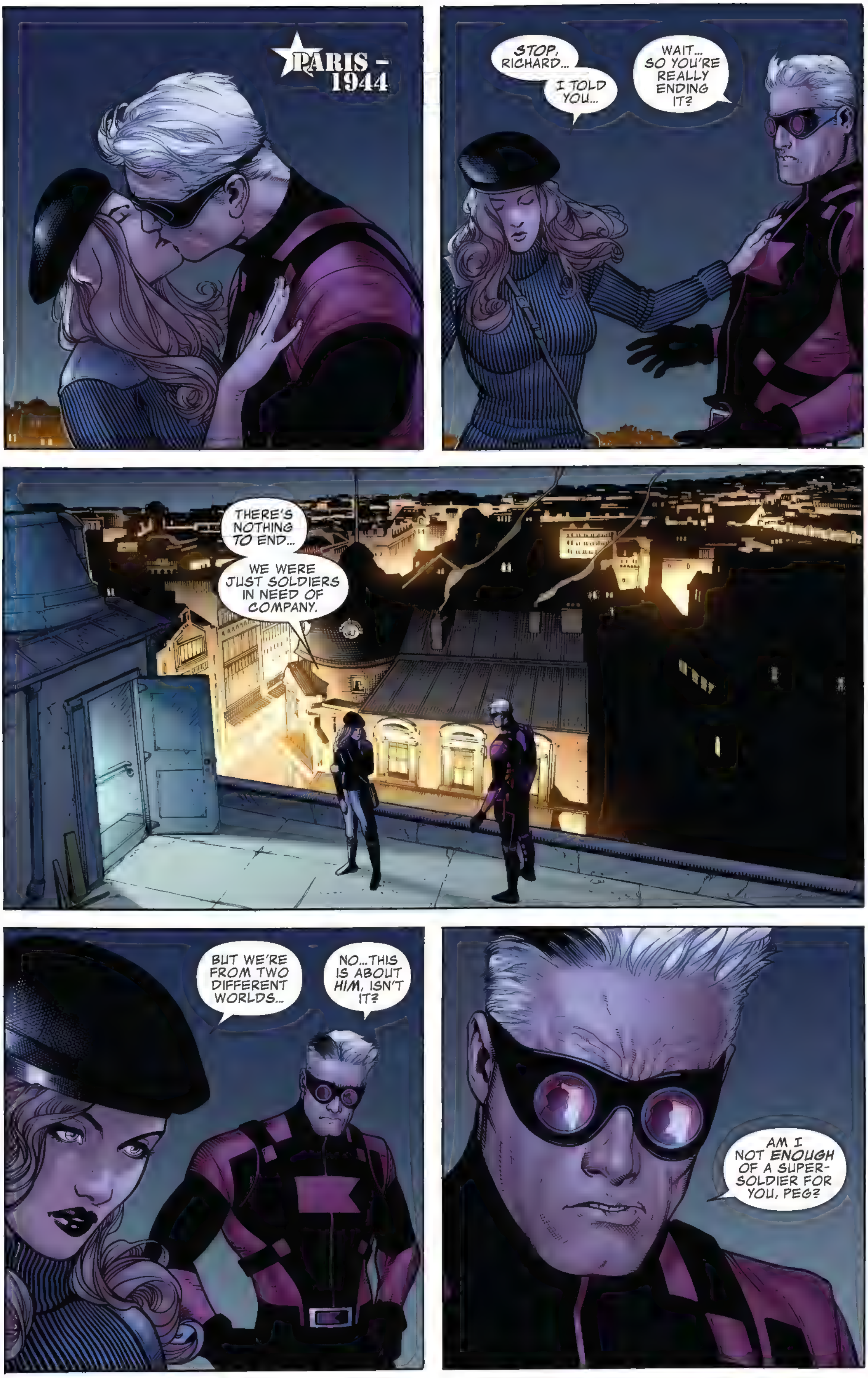

WAIT--YOU *DON'T* KNOW?
HOW ARE WE GETTING *IN* IF WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE THE DAMNED BASE *IS?*
THAT'S WHERE OUR *SECRET WEAPON* COMES IN...

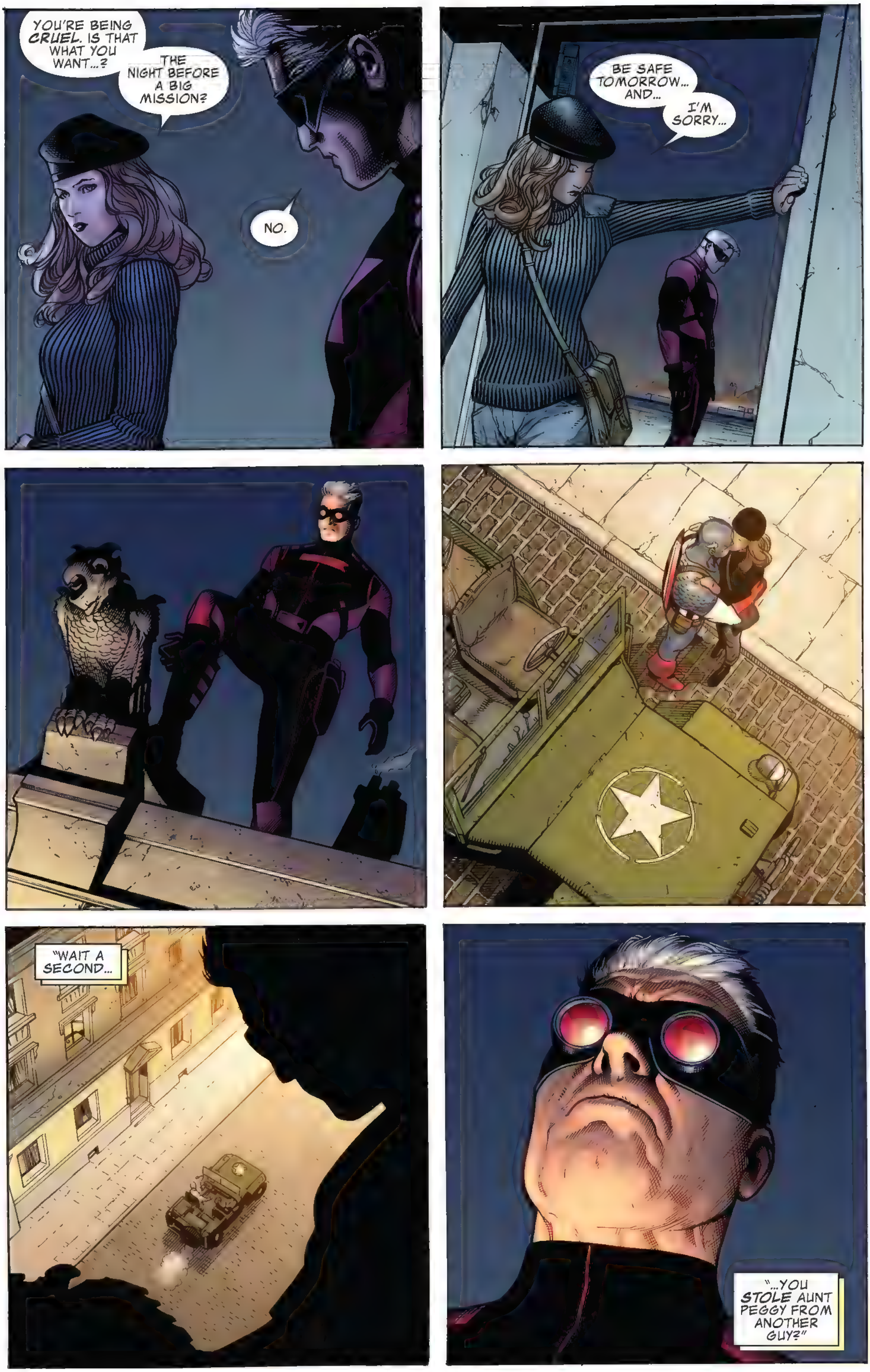

BOYS--AND LADY--MEET JIMMY JANKOVICZ...
...*ALSO* KNOWN AS *JIMMY JUPITER.*
HIYA, FELLAS...OR SHOULD I SAY *"BONJOUR"?*

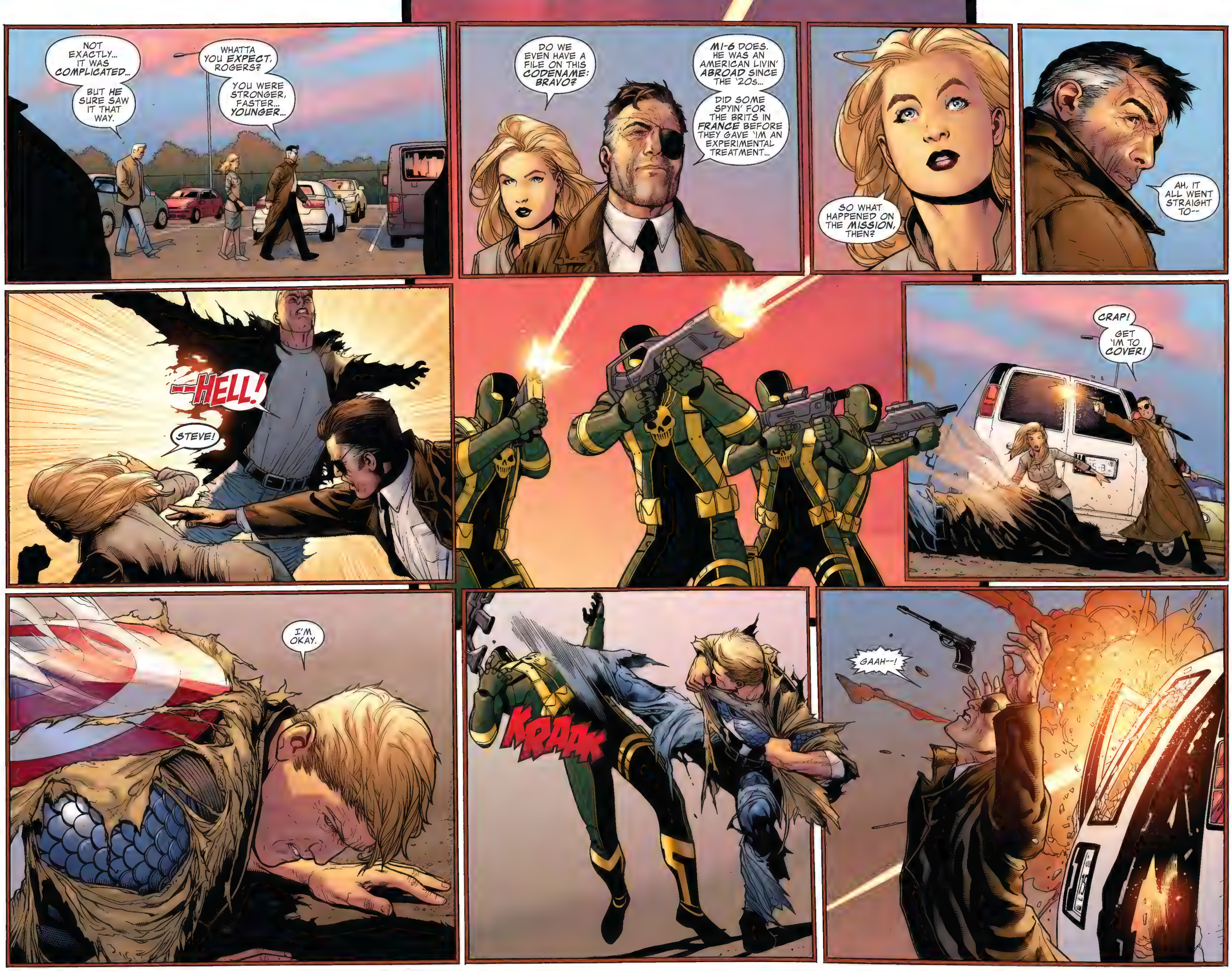

JIMMY'S GONNA BE OUR TICKET *RIGHT* INTO THE *BELLY OF THE BEAST.*

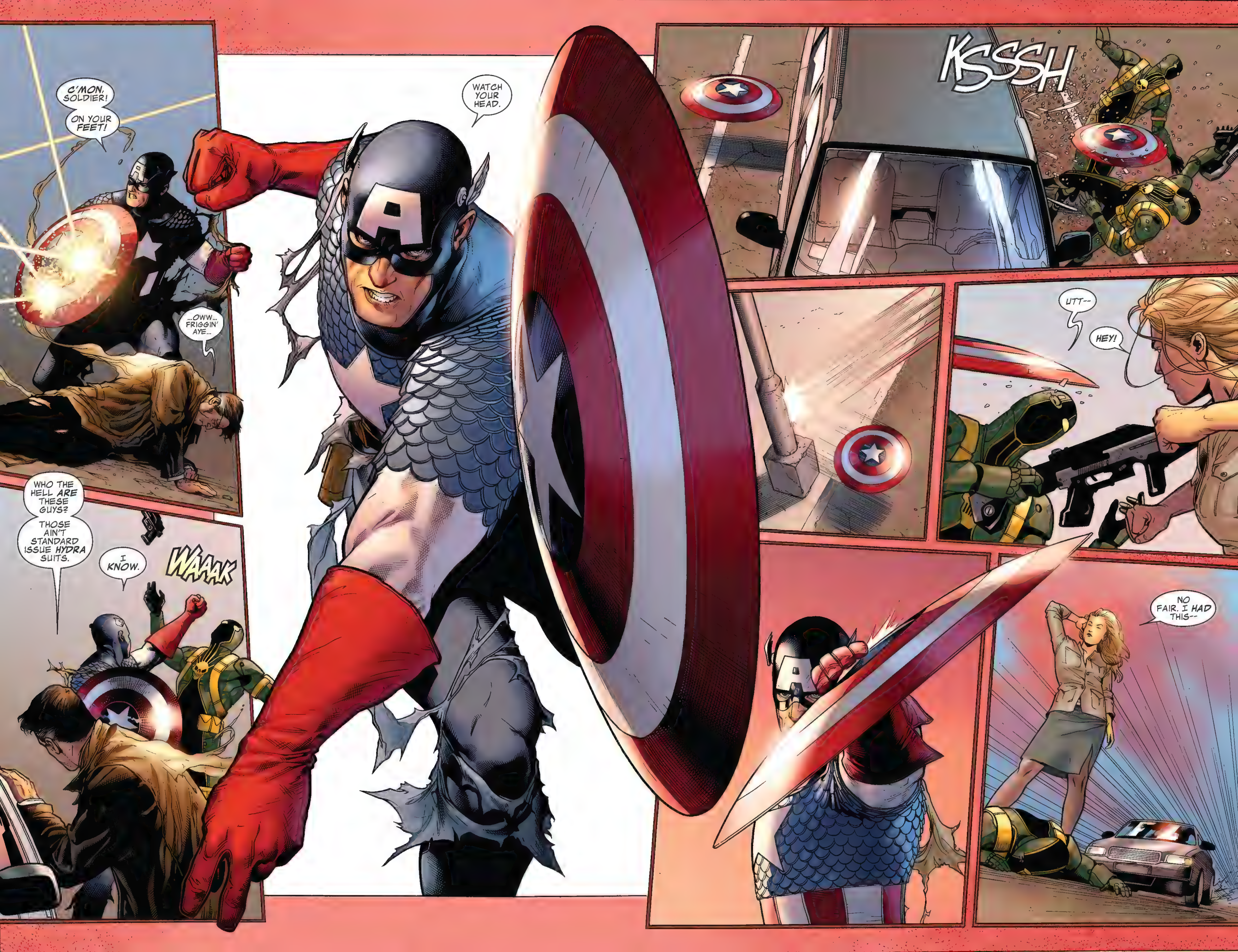

TOP-SECRET GOV'T. NURSING FACILITY - VIRGINIA
YER TELLIN' ME THAT MAN WOKE UP FROM DECADES IN A COMA...
...AN' NONE'A YOU BOTHERED TO REPORT THIS?
WELL, AS YOU CAN SEE, COLONEL FURY...
...WHILE HE IS CONSCIOUS...
...IT'S HARDLY AN IMPROVEMENT WORTH NOTING.
MR. JANKOVICZ REMAINS NEARLY CATATONIC.
THERE'S AN ORDER IN HIS FILE.
ANY CHANGES ARE TO BE REPORTED RIGHT AWAY.
YES, AND IT ALSO SAYS TO REPORT THEM TO S.H.I.E.L.D....
...AN AGENCY THAT DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE.

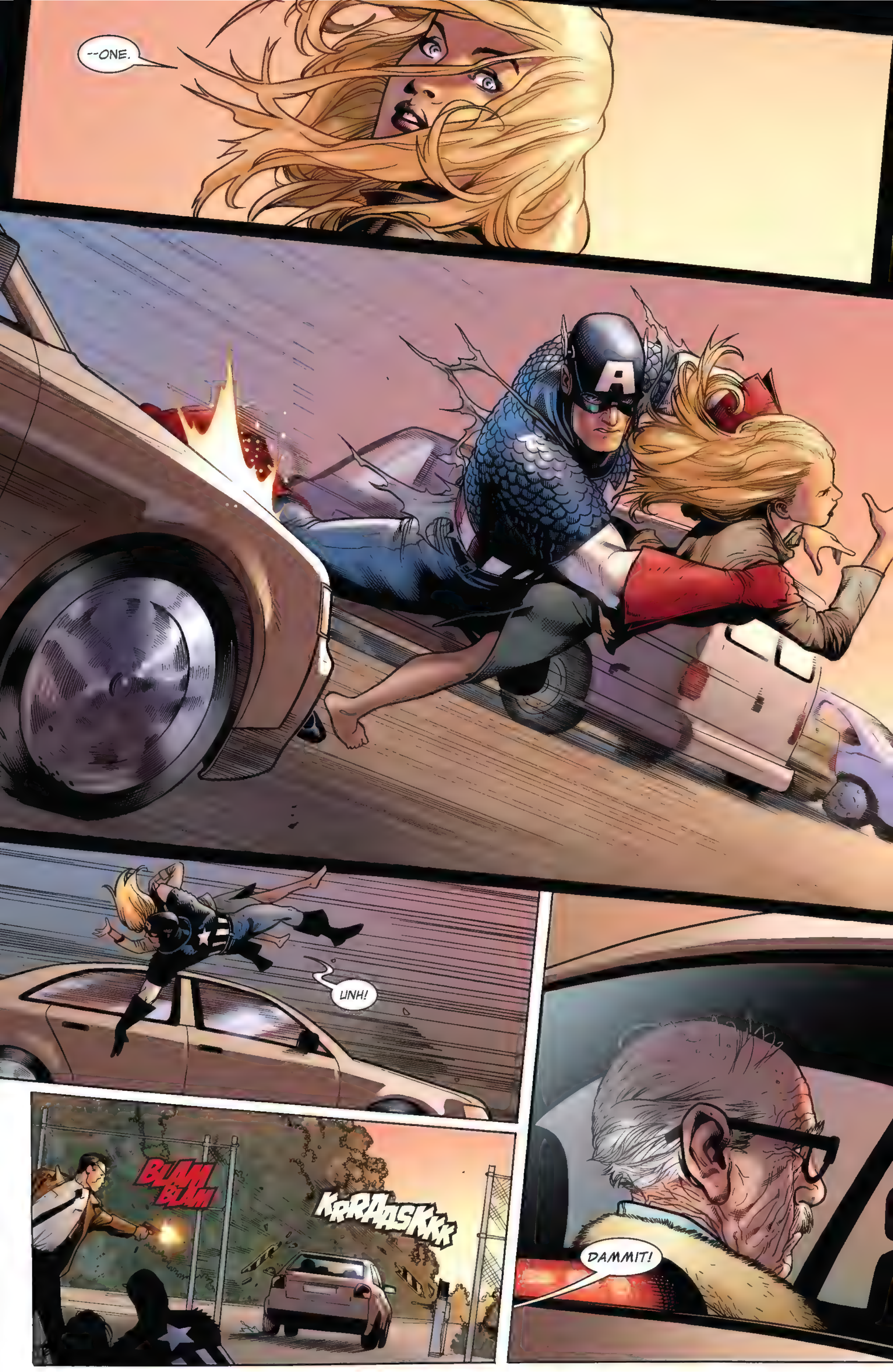

ANYTHING?
NO... HE'S NON-RESPONSIVE...
POOR OLD GUY...
THE DOC SAYS HE WOKE UP SIX MONTHS AGO.
GUESS THIS IS ANOTHER PLACE THAT FELL *THROUGH THE CRACKS* WHEN THEY BUSTED UP *S.H.I.E.L.D.*
SO...
YOU THINK THEY'VE COME *BACK*, THEN?
POSSIBLE, I GUESS.
DUGAN'S SCANNIN' *SAT-COM* FEEDS TO SEE IF BRAVO POPS UP.
BUT WHY WOULDN'T HE MAKE *CONTACT?*
I DON'T KNOW... MAYBE BECAUSE HE *HATES* ME?

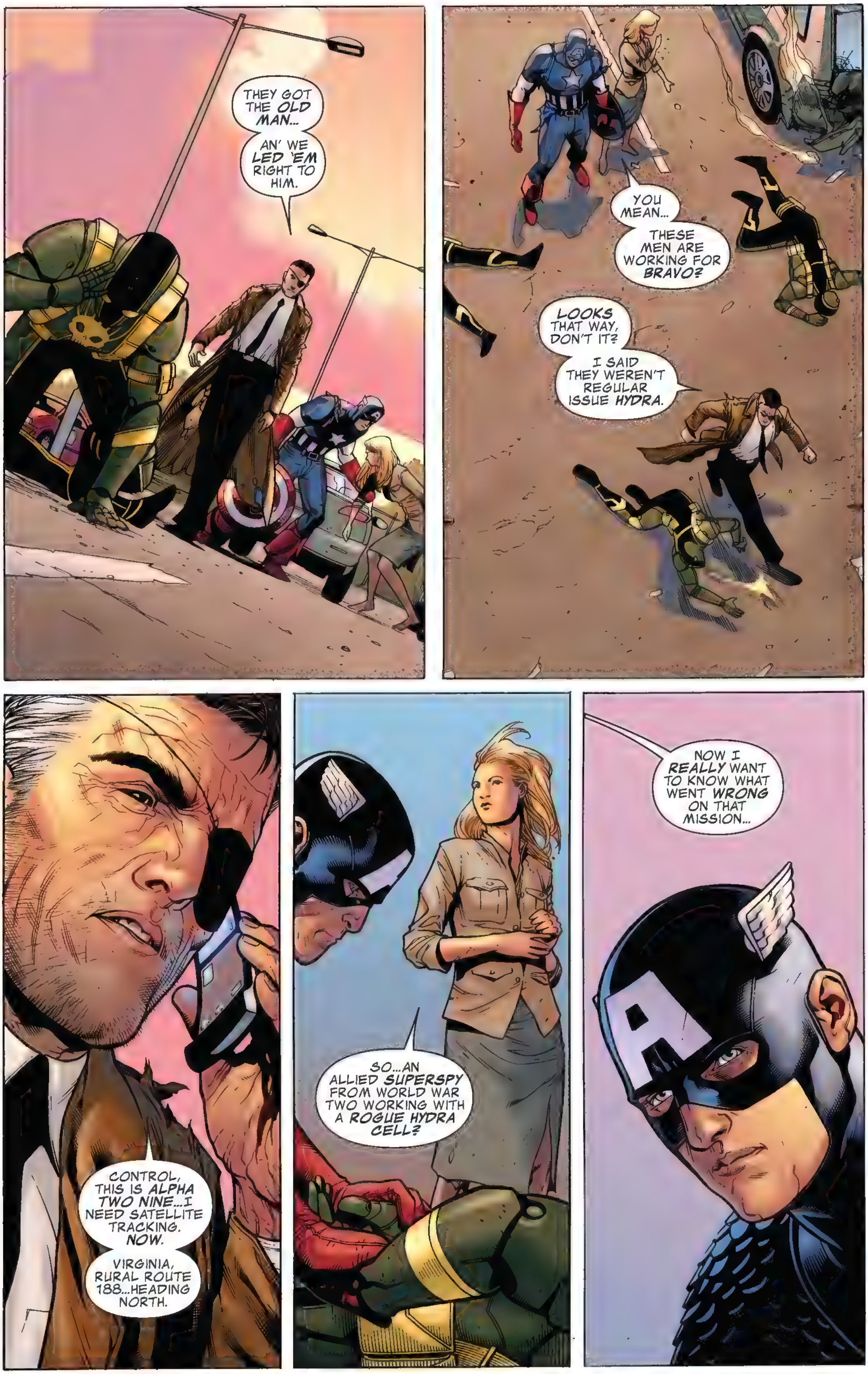

PARIS - 1944
STOP, RICHARD...
I TOLD YOU...
WAIT... SO YOU'RE REALLY ENDING IT?
THERE'S NOTHING TO END...
WE WERE JUST SOLDIERS IN NEED OF COMPANY.
BUT WE'RE FROM TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS...
NO...THIS IS ABOUT *HIM*, ISN'T IT?
AM I NOT *ENOUGH* OF A SUPER-SOLDIER FOR YOU, PEG?

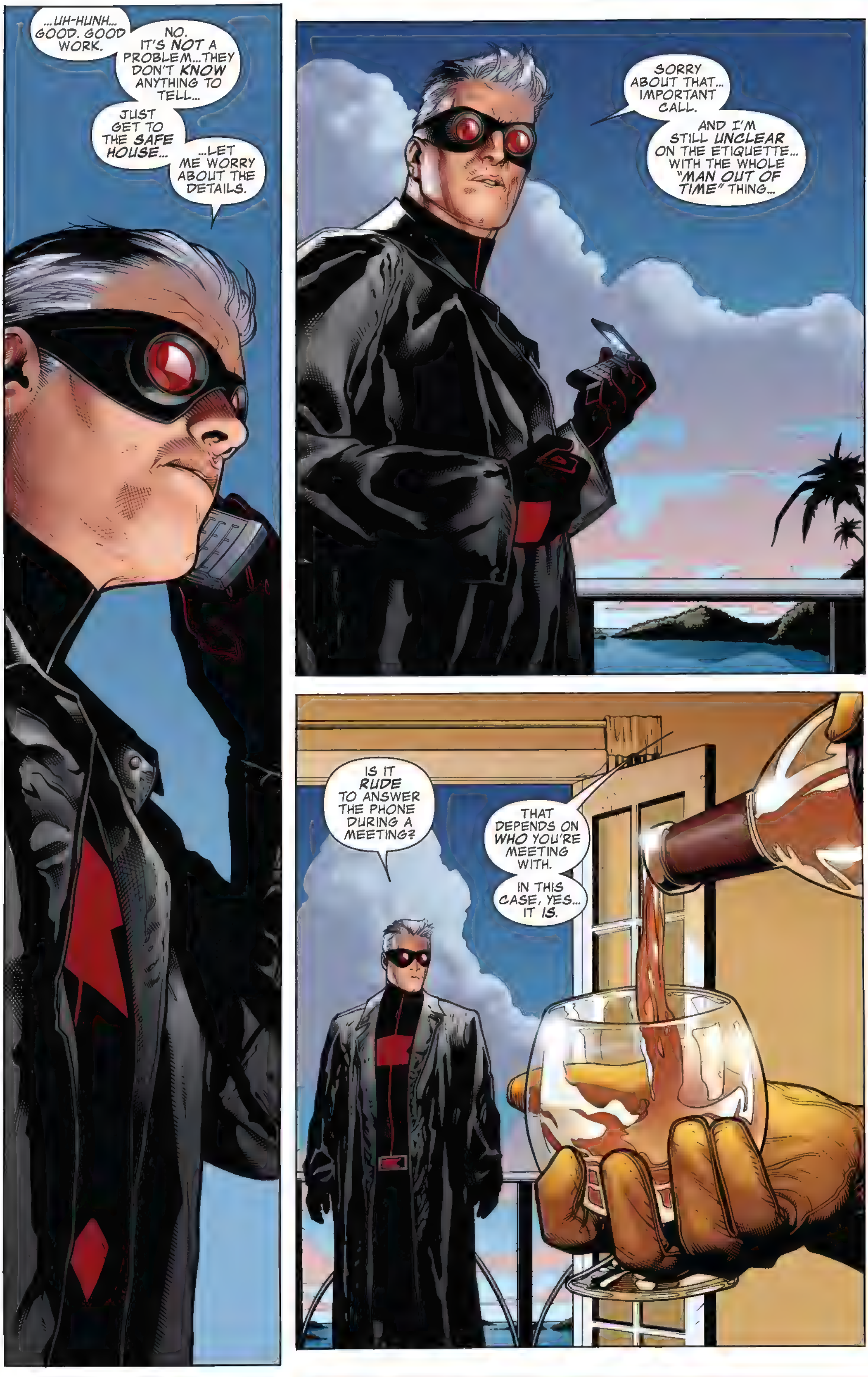

YOU'RE BEING CRUEL. IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT...?
THE NIGHT BEFORE A BIG MISSION?
NO.
BE SAFE TOMORROW... AND...
I'M SORRY...
"WAIT A SECOND...
"...YOU STOLE AUNT PEGGY FROM ANOTHER GUY?"

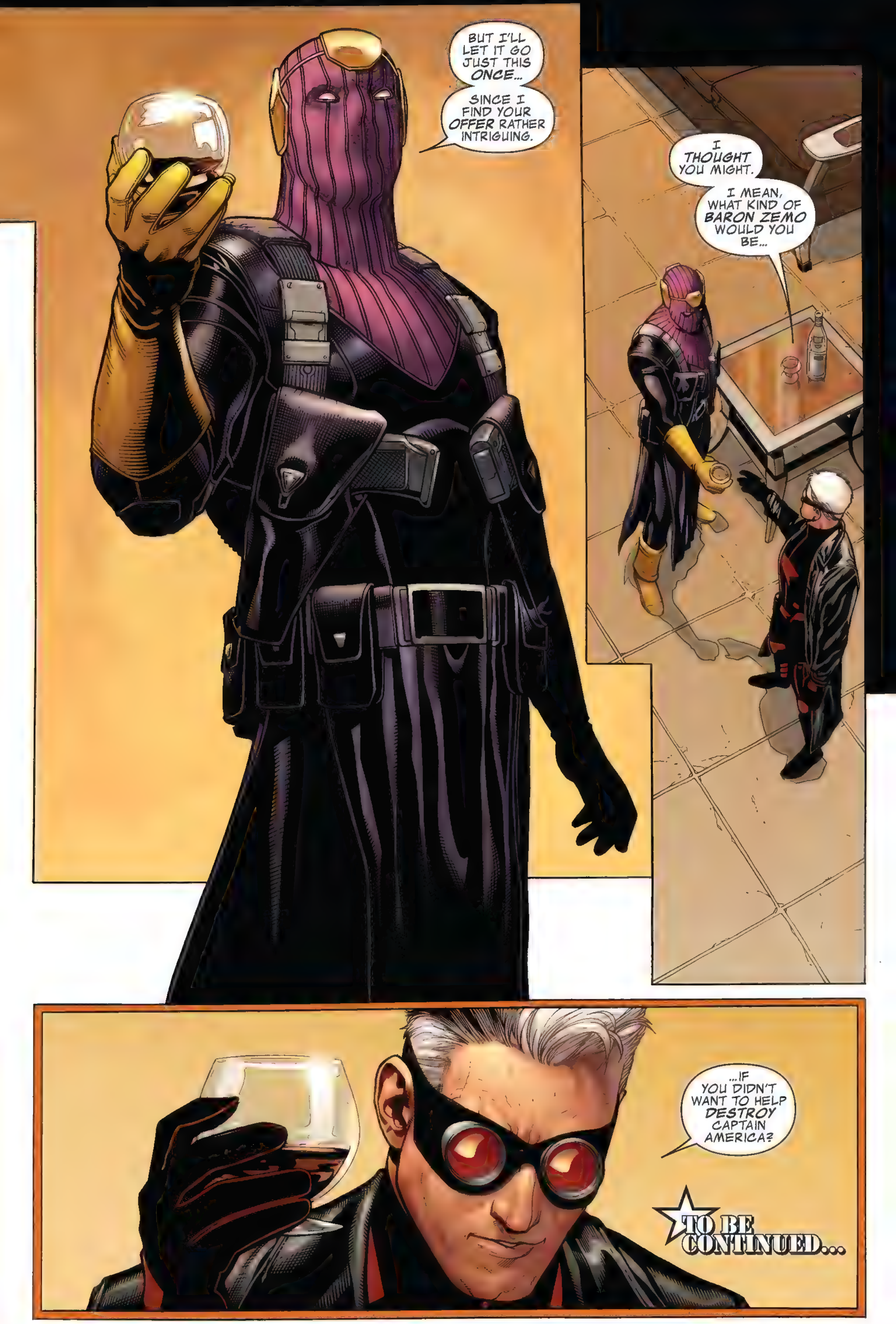

NOT EXACTLY... IT WAS COMPLICATED...
BUT HE SURE SAW IT THAT WAY.
WHATTA YOU EXPECT, ROGERS?
YOU WERE STRONGER, FASTER... YOUNGER...
DO WE EVEN HAVE A FILE ON THIS CODENAME: BRAVO?
MI-6 DOES. HE WAS AN AMERICAN LIVIN' ABROAD SINCE THE '20s...
DID SOME SPYIN' FOR THE BRITS IN FRANCE BEFORE THEY GAVE 'IM AN EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENT...
SO WHAT HAPPENED ON THE MISSION, THEN?
AH, IT ALL WENT STRAIGHT TO--
--HELL!
STEVE!
CRAP!
GET 'IM TO COVER!
I'M OKAY.
KRAAK
GAAH--!


C'MON, SOLDIER!
ON YOUR FEET!
...OWW... FRIGGIN' AYE...
WHO THE HELL ARE THESE GUYS?
THOSE AIN'T STANDARD ISSUE HYDRA SUITS.
I KNOW.
WAAAK
WATCH YOUR HEAD.
KSSSH
UTT--
HEY!
NO FAIR. I HAD THIS--


--ONE.
UNH!
BLAM BLAM
KRRAASKKK
DAMMIT!


THEY GOT THE OLD MAN...
AN' WE LED 'EM RIGHT TO HIM.
YOU MEAN...
THESE MEN ARE WORKING FOR BRAVO?
LOOKS THAT WAY, DON'T IT?
I SAID THEY WEREN'T REGULAR ISSUE HYDRA.
CONTROL, THIS IS ALPHA TWO NINE...I NEED SATELLITE TRACKING. NOW.
VIRGINIA, RURAL ROUTE 188...HEADING NORTH.
SO...AN ALLIED SUPERSPY FROM WORLD WAR TWO WORKING WITH A ROGUE HYDRA CELL?
NOW I REALLY WANT TO KNOW WHAT WENT WRONG ON THAT MISSION...


...UH-HUNH... GOOD. GOOD WORK.
NO. IT'S NOT A PROBLEM...THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING TO TELL...
JUST GET TO THE SAFE HOUSE...
...LET ME WORRY ABOUT THE DETAILS.
SORRY ABOUT THAT... IMPORTANT CALL.
AND I'M STILL UNCLEAR ON THE ETIQUETTE... WITH THE WHOLE "MAN OUT OF TIME" THING...
IS IT RUDE TO ANSWER THE PHONE DURING A MEETING?
THAT DEPENDS ON WHO YOU'RE MEETING WITH.
IN THIS CASE, YES... IT IS.


BUT I'LL LET IT GO JUST THIS *ONCE*...
SINCE I FIND YOUR *OFFER* RATHER INTRIGUING.
I *THOUGHT* YOU MIGHT.
I MEAN, WHAT KIND OF *BARON ZEMO* WOULD YOU BE...
...IF YOU DIDN'T WANT TO HELP *DESTROY* CAPTAIN AMERICA?
TO BE CONTINUED...

CAPTAIN AMERICA

MARVEL
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2

BRUBAKER
McNIVEN
LEISTEN
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DURING THE DARK DAYS OF THE EARLY 1940S, A COVERT MILITARY EXPERIMENT TURNED STEVE ROGERS INTO AMERICA'S FIRST SUPER-SOLDIER, CAPTAIN AMERICA. THROUGHOUT THE WAR, CAP AND HIS PARTNER BUCKY FOUGHT ALONGSIDE OUR INFANTRY AND WITH A GROUP OF HEROES KNOWN AS THE INVADERS. IN THE CLOSING MONTHS OF WWII, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WERE BOTH PRESUMED DEAD IN AN EXPLOSION OVER THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

DECADES LATER, A FIGURE WAS FOUND TRAPPED IN ICE, AND CAPTAIN AMERICA WAS REVIVED. HAVING SLEPT THROUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE 20TH CENTURY, STEVE ROGERS AWAKENED TO A WORLD HE NEVER IMAGINED. A WORLD WHERE WAR HAD MOVED FROM THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE CITY STREETS...A WORLD IN DIRE NEED OF...

CAPTAIN AMERICA

WHILE ATTENDING THE FUNERAL OF WORLD WAR II VETERAN PEGGY CARTER IN PARIS, STEVE ROGERS, NICK FURY, SHARON CARTER AND DUM DUM DUGAN BARELY ESCAPED AN AMBUSH SET BY CODE NAME BRAVO, AN ALLIED OPERATIVE NOT SEEN SINCE 1944. THE BIZARRE ATTACK LED THEM TO INQUIRE AFTER THE NOW ELDERLY JIMMY JANKOVICZ, AKA JIMMY JUPITER, WHO, IN HIS YOUTH, WAS PART OF THE ALLIED MISSION THAT LED TO BRAVO'S DISAPPEARANCE. UNABLE TO ASCERTAIN ANYTHING FROM THE NOW-CATATONIC JANKOVICZ, THE TEAM WAS AMBUSHED IN THE PARKING LOT BY WHAT SEEMED TO BE HYDRA AGENTS IN HIGH-TECH SUITS, WHO THEN PROCEEDED TO KIDNAP JANKOVICZ. MEANWHILE, IN AN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION, BRAVO MET WITH BARON ZEMO AND OFFERED HIM A PART IN HIS PLOT TO DESTROY CAPTAIN AMERICA.

AMERICAN DREAMERS PART 2

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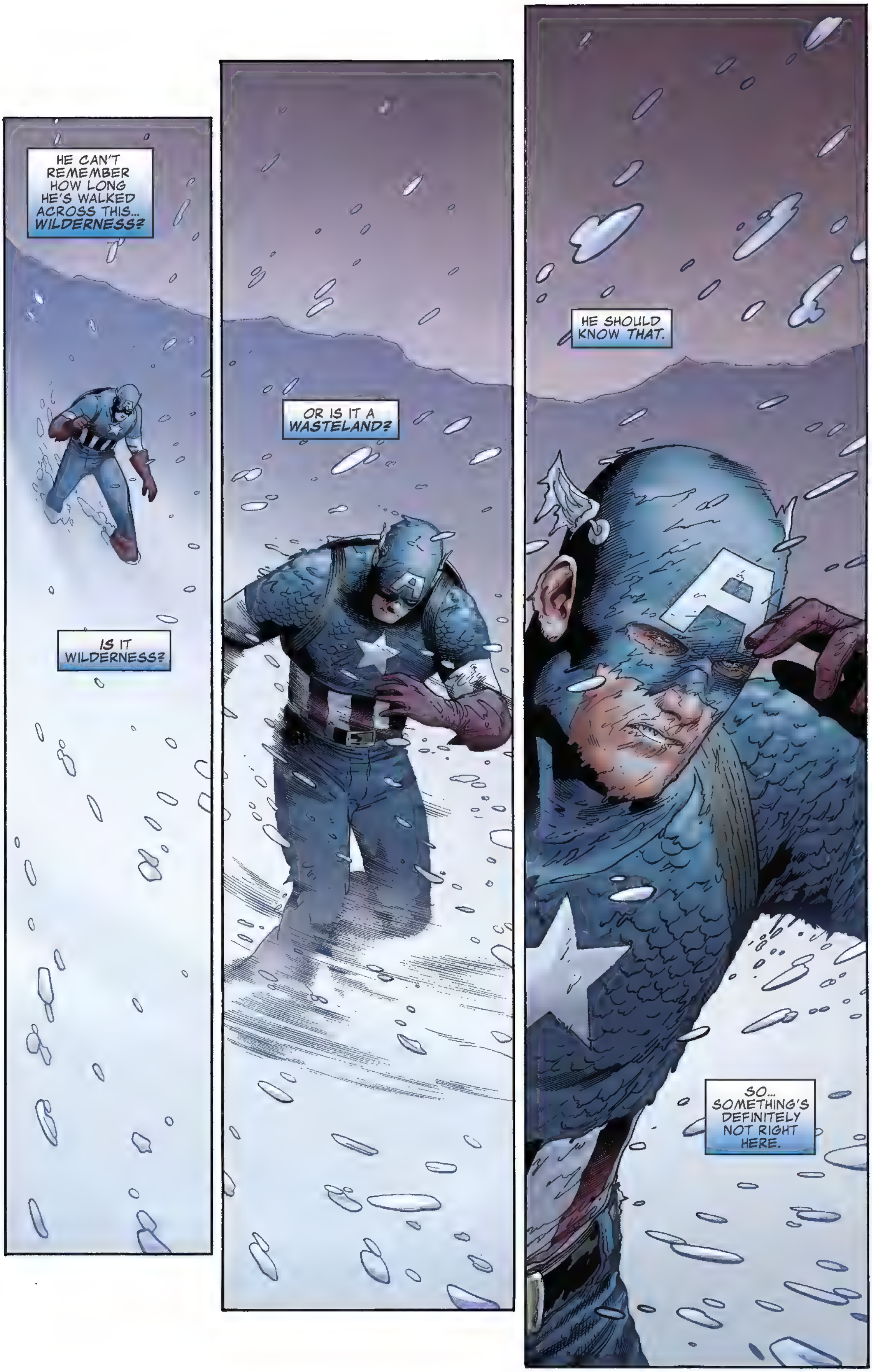
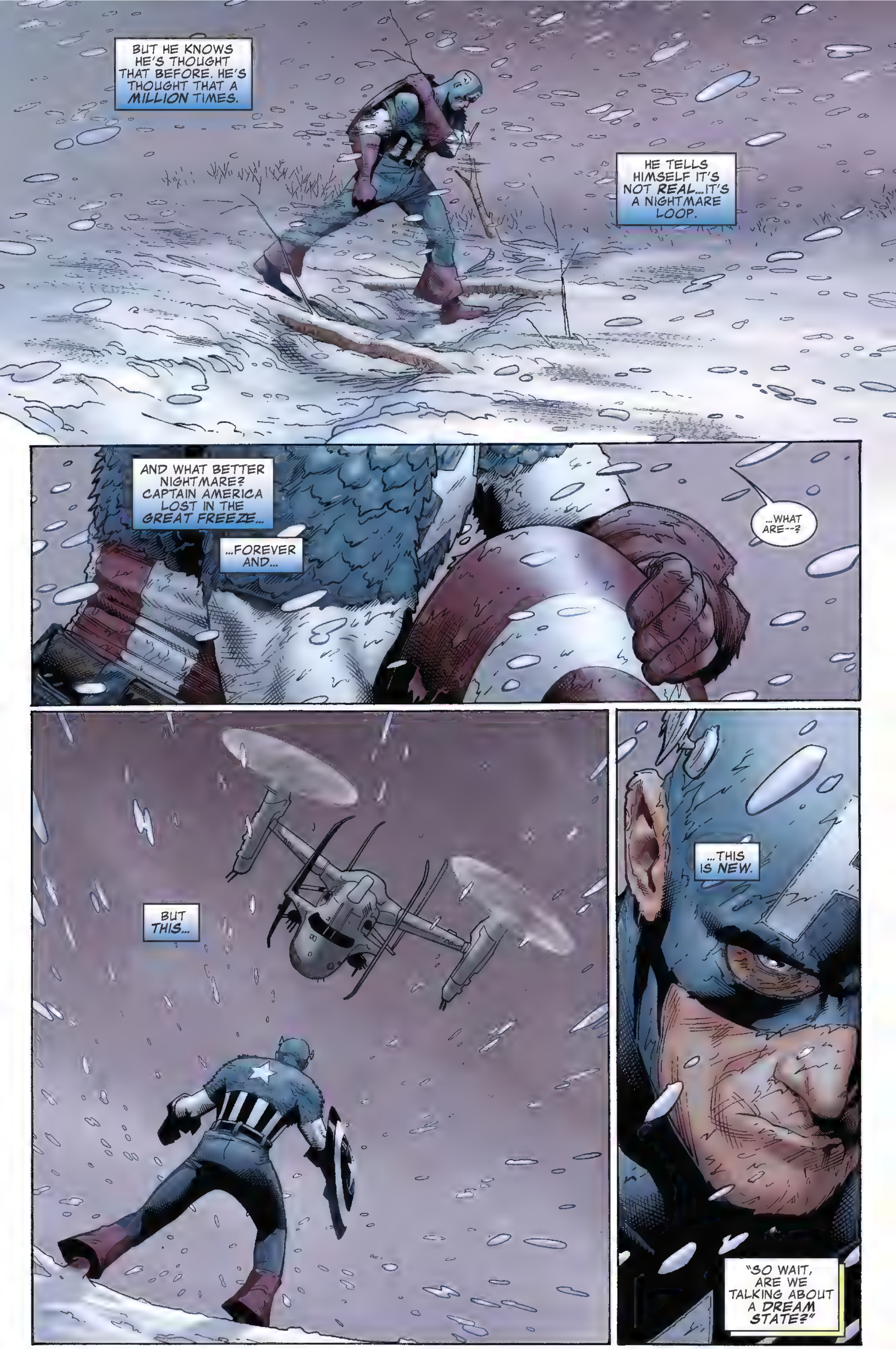
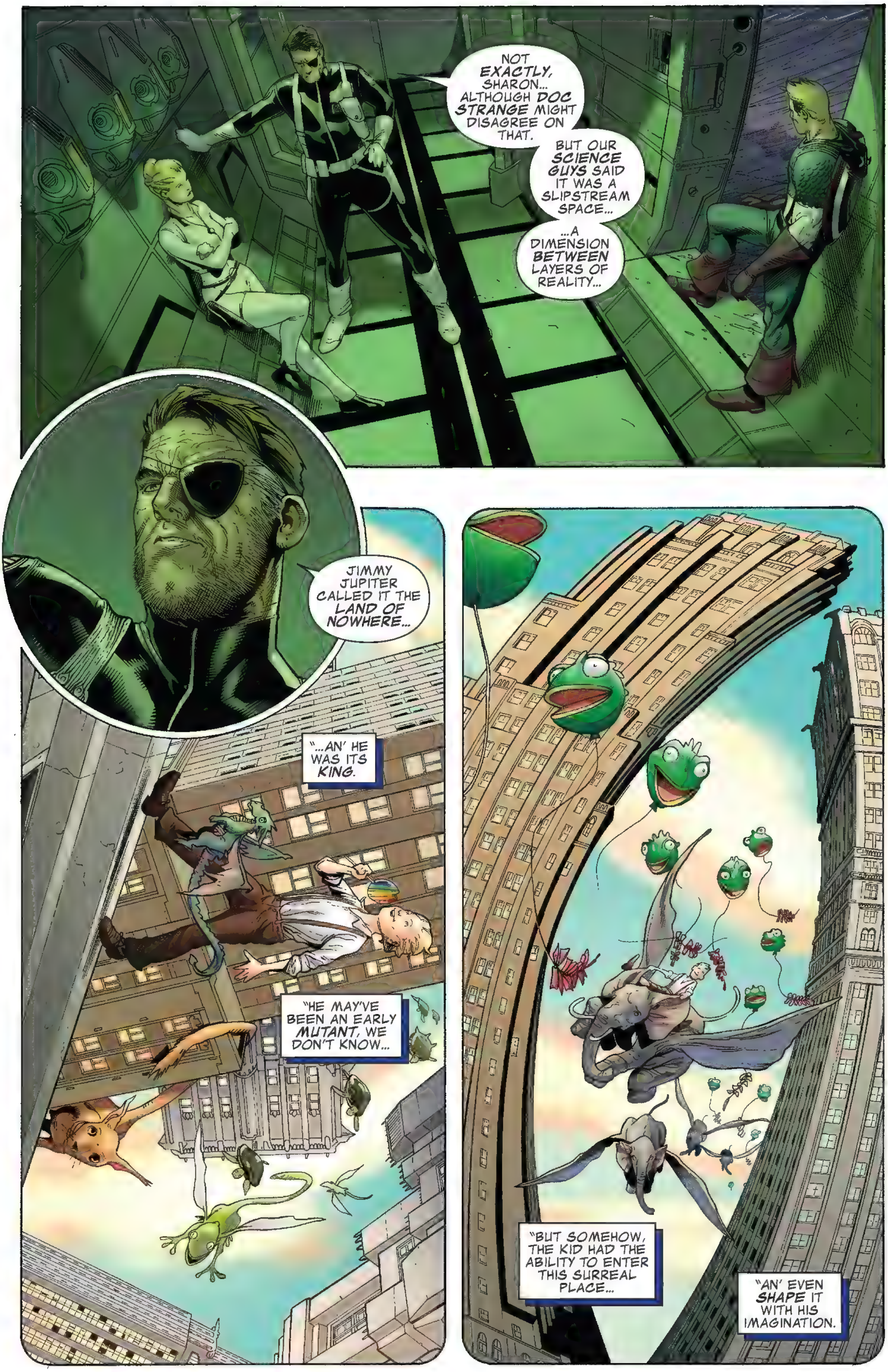
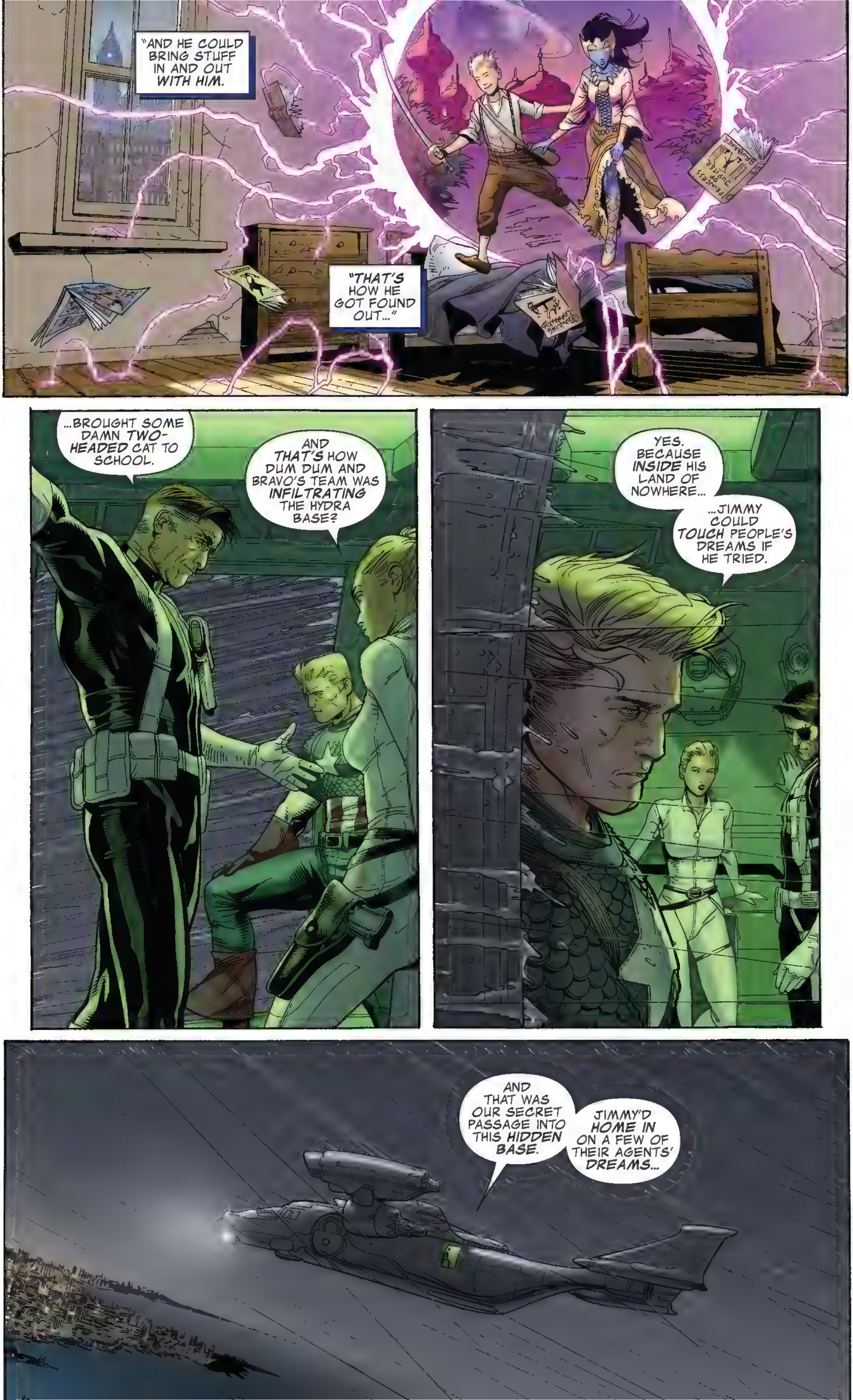
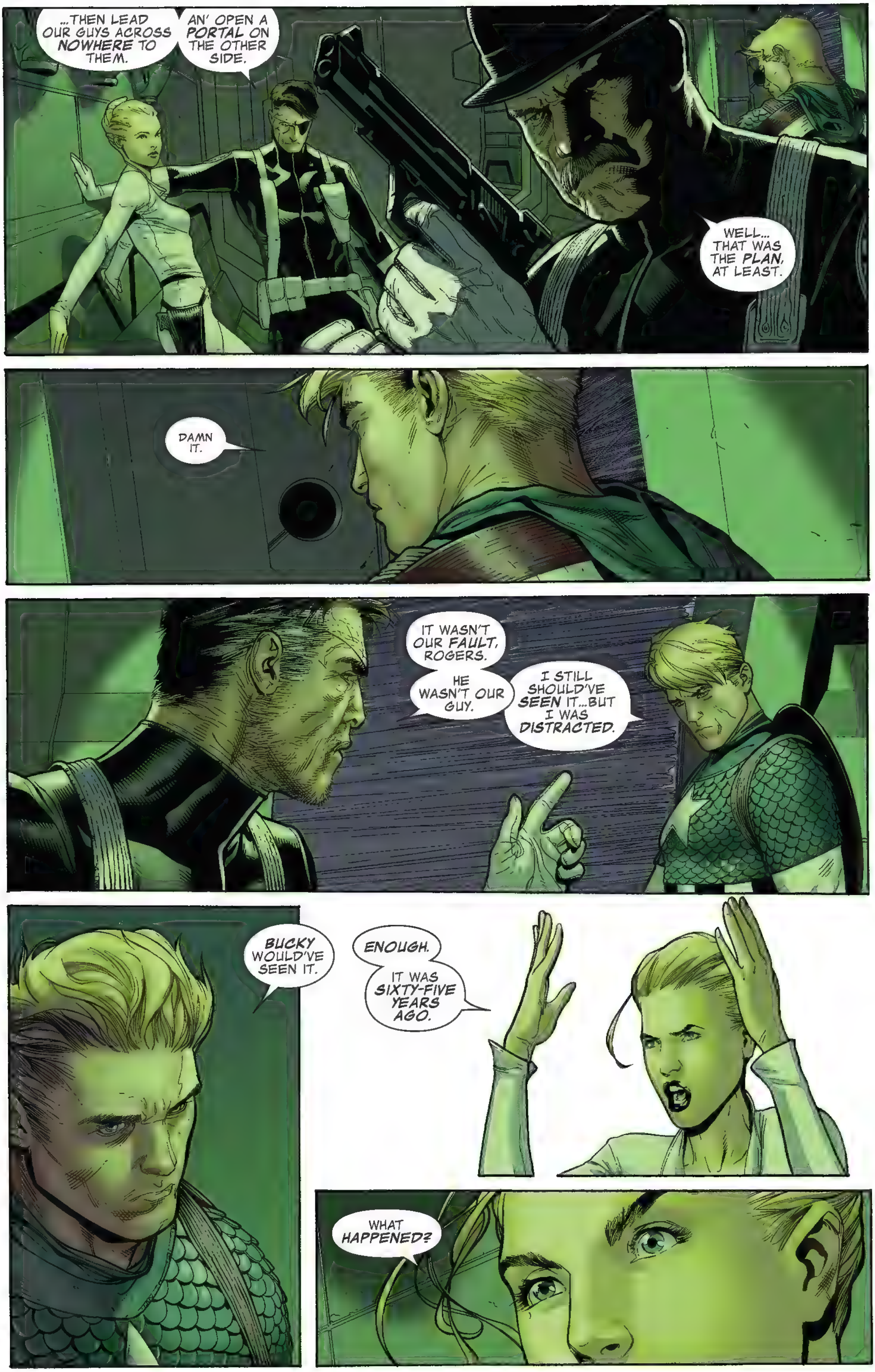
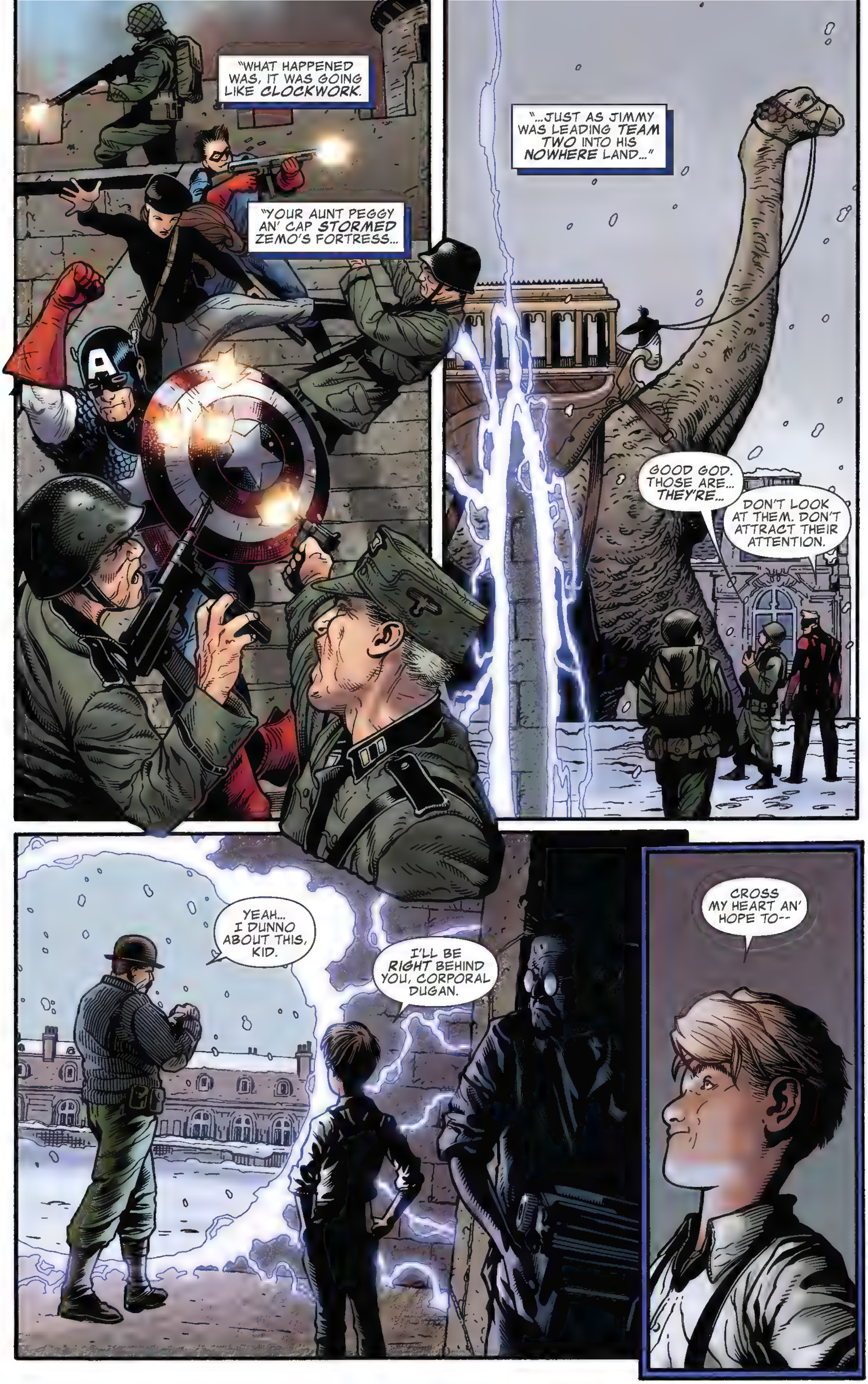

HE CAN'T REMEMBER HOW LONG HE'S WALKED ACROSS THIS... *WILDERNESS?*
IS IT WILDERNESS?
OR IS IT A *WASTELAND?*
HE SHOULD KNOW *THAT.*
SO... SOMETHING'S DEFINITELY NOT RIGHT HERE.

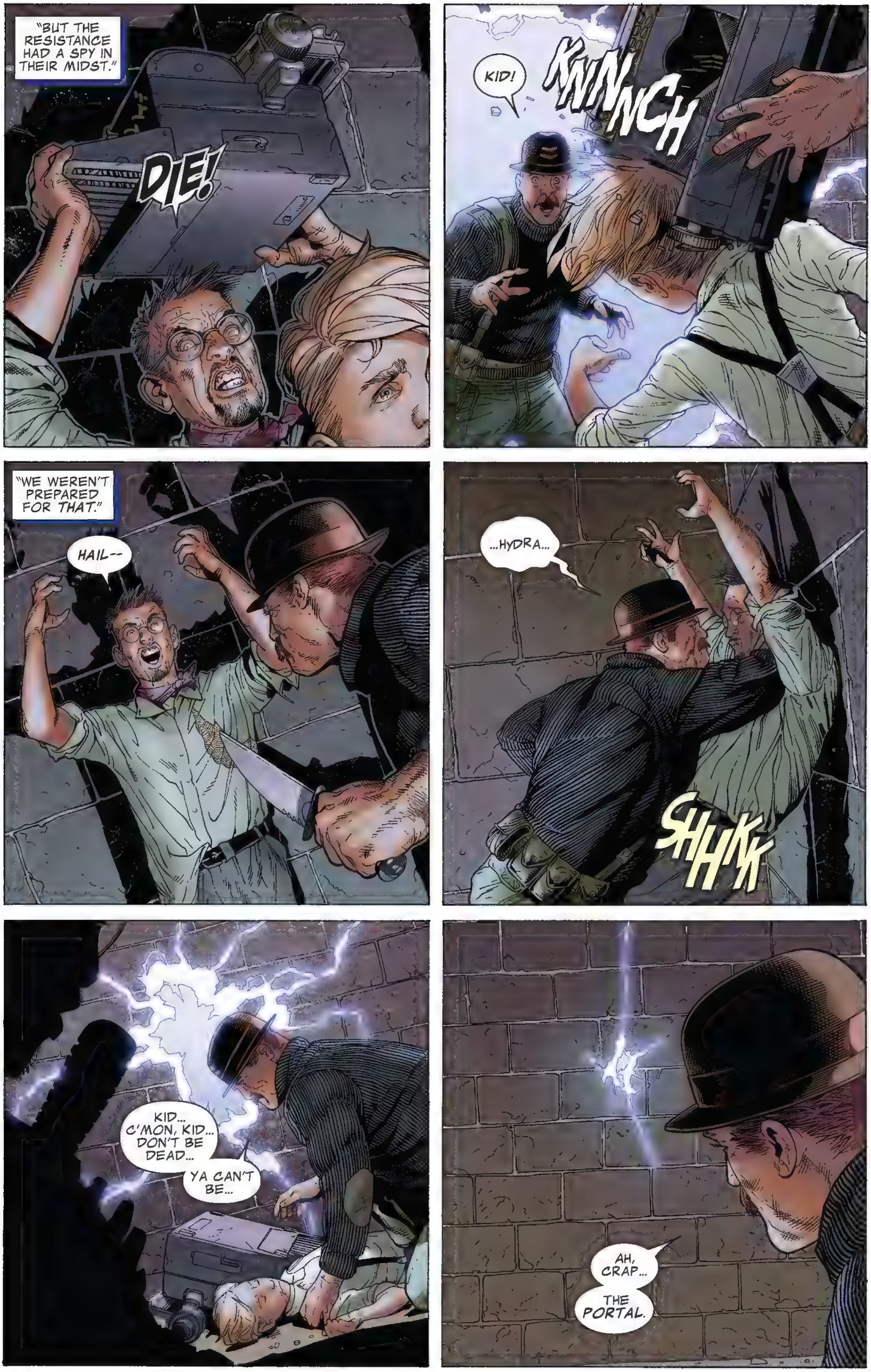

BUT HE KNOWS HE'S THOUGHT THAT BEFORE. HE'S THOUGHT THAT A *MILLION* TIMES.
HE TELLS HIMSELF IT'S NOT *REAL*...IT'S A NIGHTMARE LOOP.
AND WHAT BETTER NIGHTMARE? CAPTAIN AMERICA LOST IN THE *GREAT FREEZE*...
...FOREVER AND...
...WHAT ARE--?
BUT *THIS*...
...THIS IS *NEW*.
"SO WAIT, ARE WE TALKING ABOUT A *DREAM STATE*?"

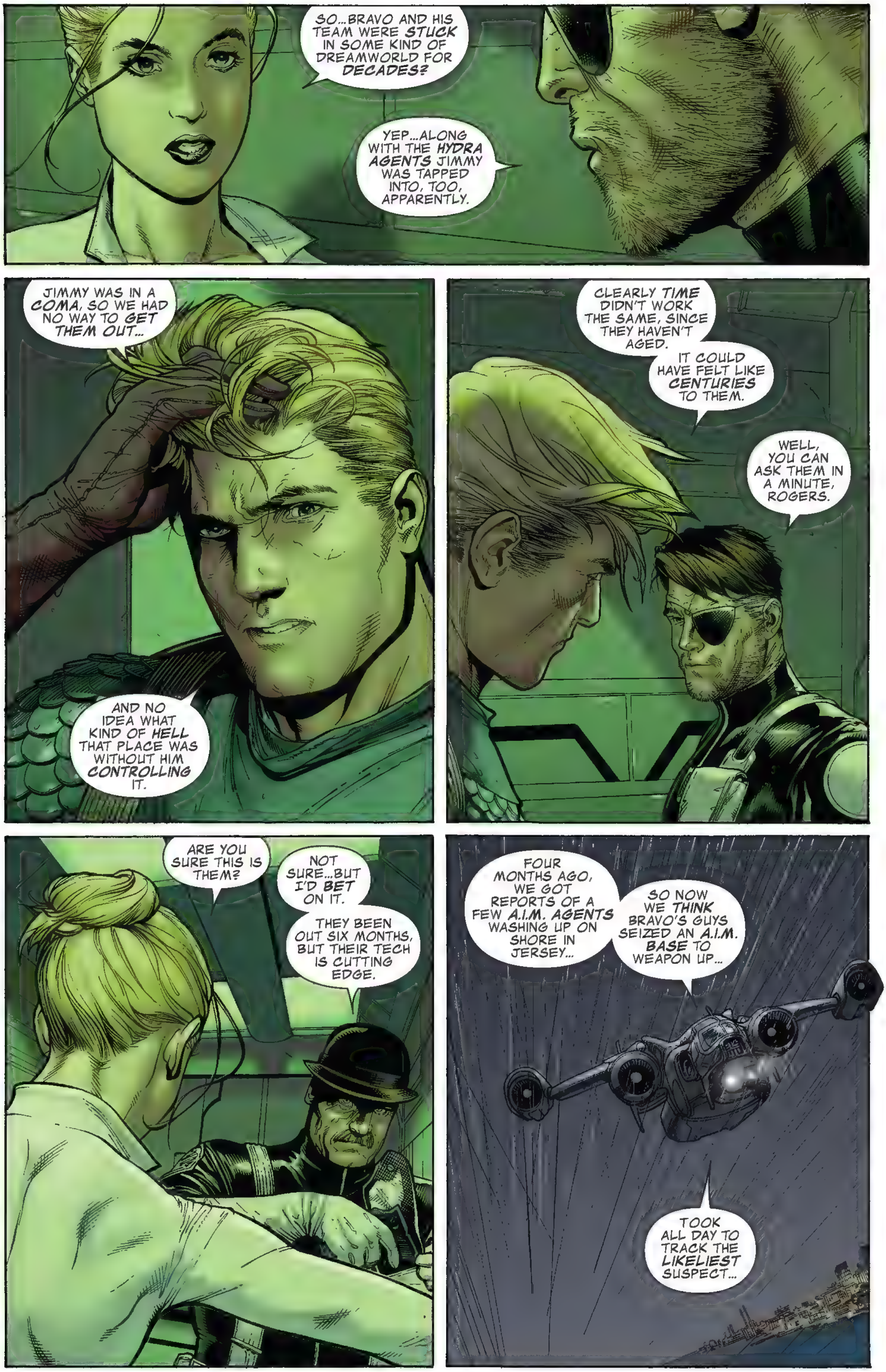

NOT EXACTLY, SHARON... ALTHOUGH DOC STRANGE MIGHT DISAGREE ON THAT.
BUT OUR SCIENCE GUYS SAID IT WAS A SLIPSTREAM SPACE...
...A DIMENSION BETWEEN LAYERS OF REALITY...
JIMMY JUPITER CALLED IT THE LAND OF NOWHERE...
"...AN' HE WAS ITS KING.
"HE MAY'VE BEEN AN EARLY MUTANT, WE DON'T KNOW...
"BUT SOMEHOW, THE KID HAD THE ABILITY TO ENTER THIS SURREAL PLACE...
"AN' EVEN SHAPE IT WITH HIS IMAGINATION.

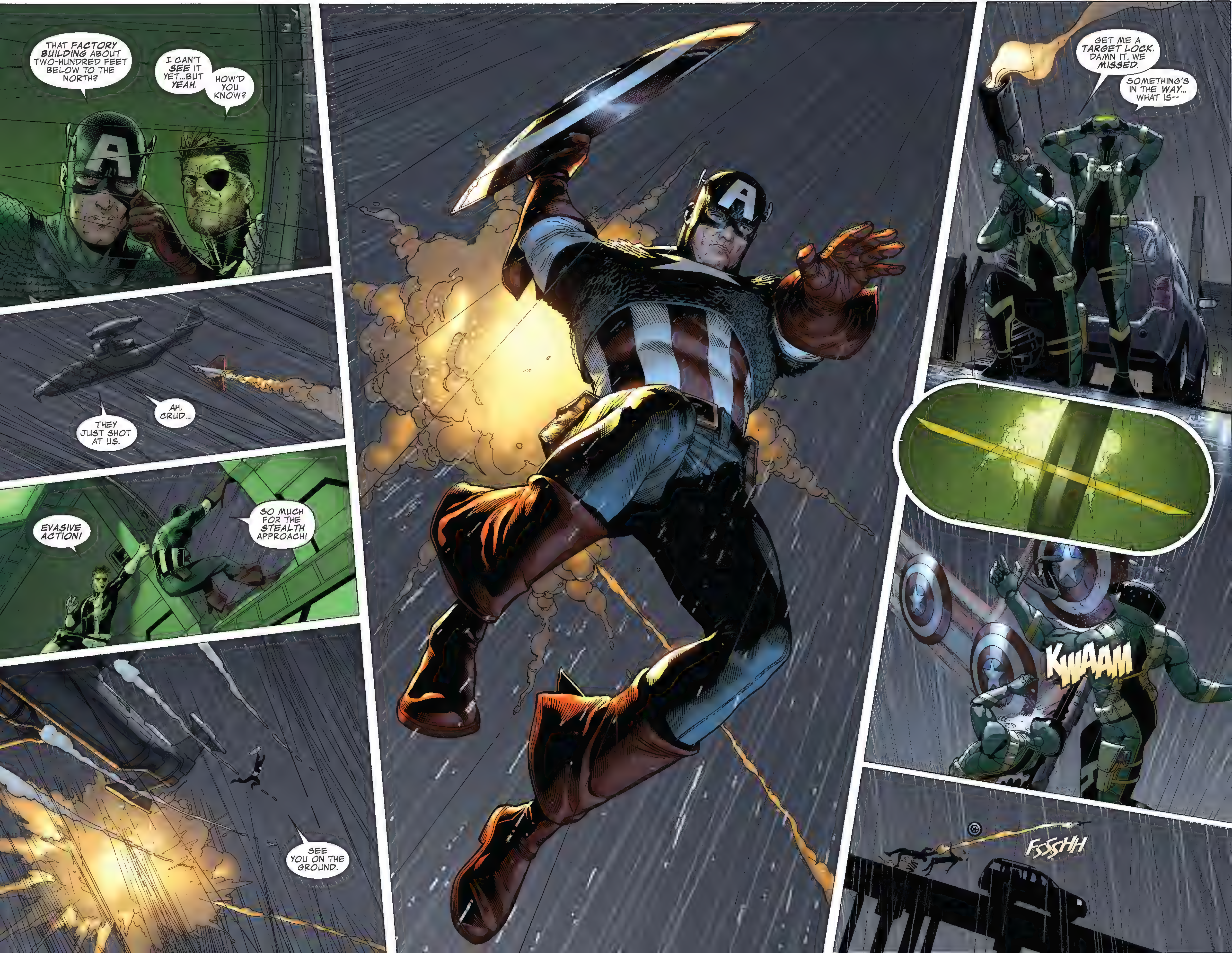

"AND HE COULD BRING STUFF IN AND OUT WITH HIM.
"THAT'S HOW HE GOT FOUND OUT..."
...BROUGHT SOME DAMN TWO-HEADED CAT TO SCHOOL.
AND THAT'S HOW DUM DUM AND BRAVO'S TEAM WAS INFILTRATING THE HYDRA BASE?
YES. BECAUSE INSIDE HIS LAND OF NOWHERE...
...JIMMY COULD TOUCH PEOPLE'S DREAMS IF HE TRIED.
AND THAT WAS OUR SECRET PASSAGE INTO THIS HIDDEN BASE.
JIMMY'D HOME IN ON A FEW OF THEIR AGENTS' DREAMS...

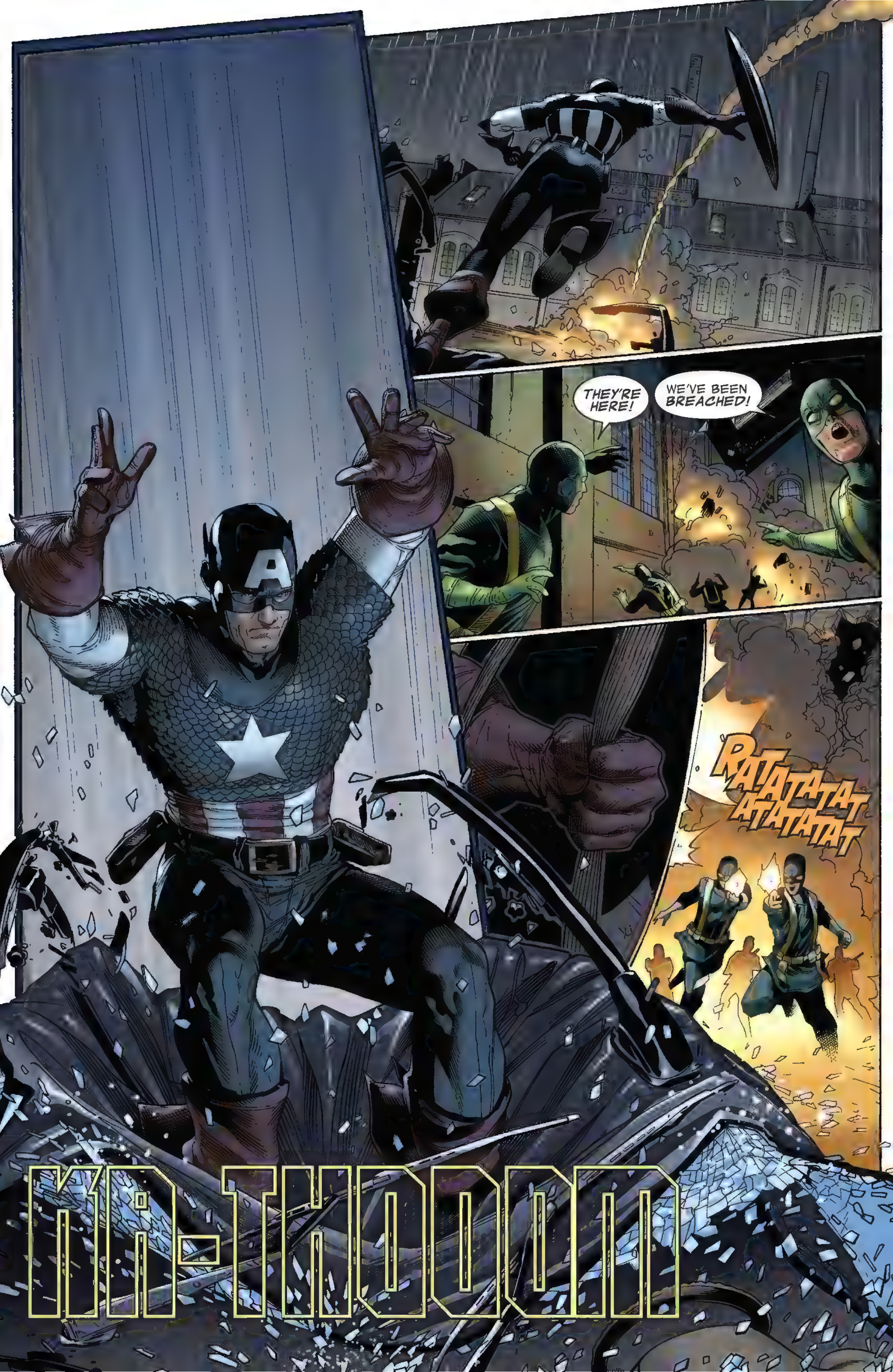

...THEN LEAD OUR GUYS ACROSS NOWHERE TO THEM.
AN' OPEN A PORTAL ON THE OTHER SIDE.
WELL... THAT WAS THE PLAN, AT LEAST.
DAMN IT.
IT WASN'T OUR FAULT, ROGERS.
HE WASN'T OUR GUY.
I STILL SHOULD'VE SEEN IT...BUT I WAS DISTRACTED.
BUCKY WOULD'VE SEEN IT.
ENOUGH.
IT WAS SIXTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.
WHAT HAPPENED?

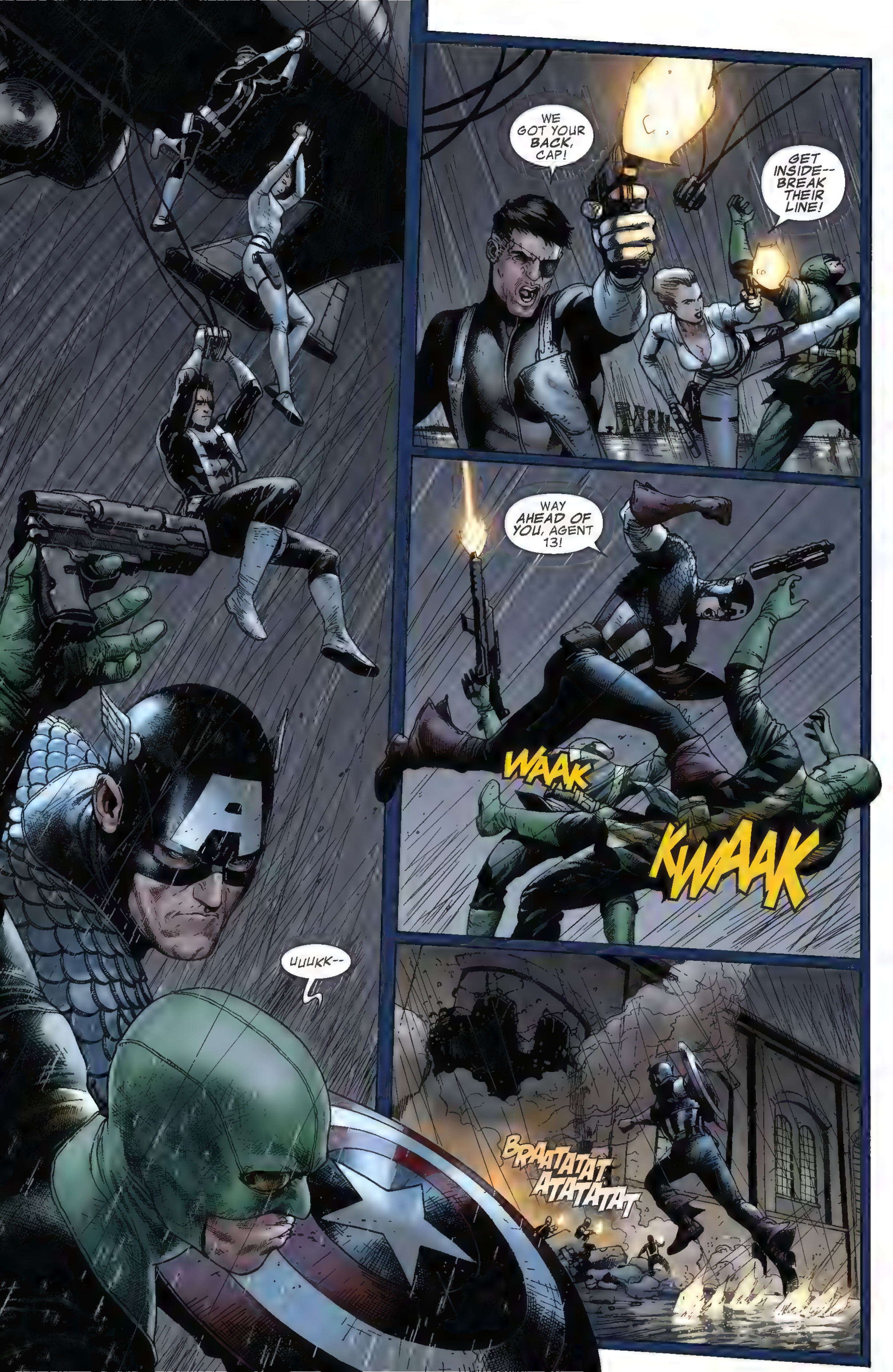

"WHAT HAPPENED WAS, IT WAS GOING LIKE CLOCKWORK.
"YOUR AUNT PEGGY AN' CAP STORMED ZEMO'S FORTRESS...
"...JUST AS JIMMY WAS LEADING TEAM TWO INTO HIS NOWHERE LAND..."
GOOD GOD. THOSE ARE... THEY'RE...
DON'T LOOK AT THEM. DON'T ATTRACT THEIR ATTENTION.
YEAH... I DUNNO ABOUT THIS, KID.
I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU, CORPORAL DUGAN.
CROSS MY HEART AN' HOPE TO--

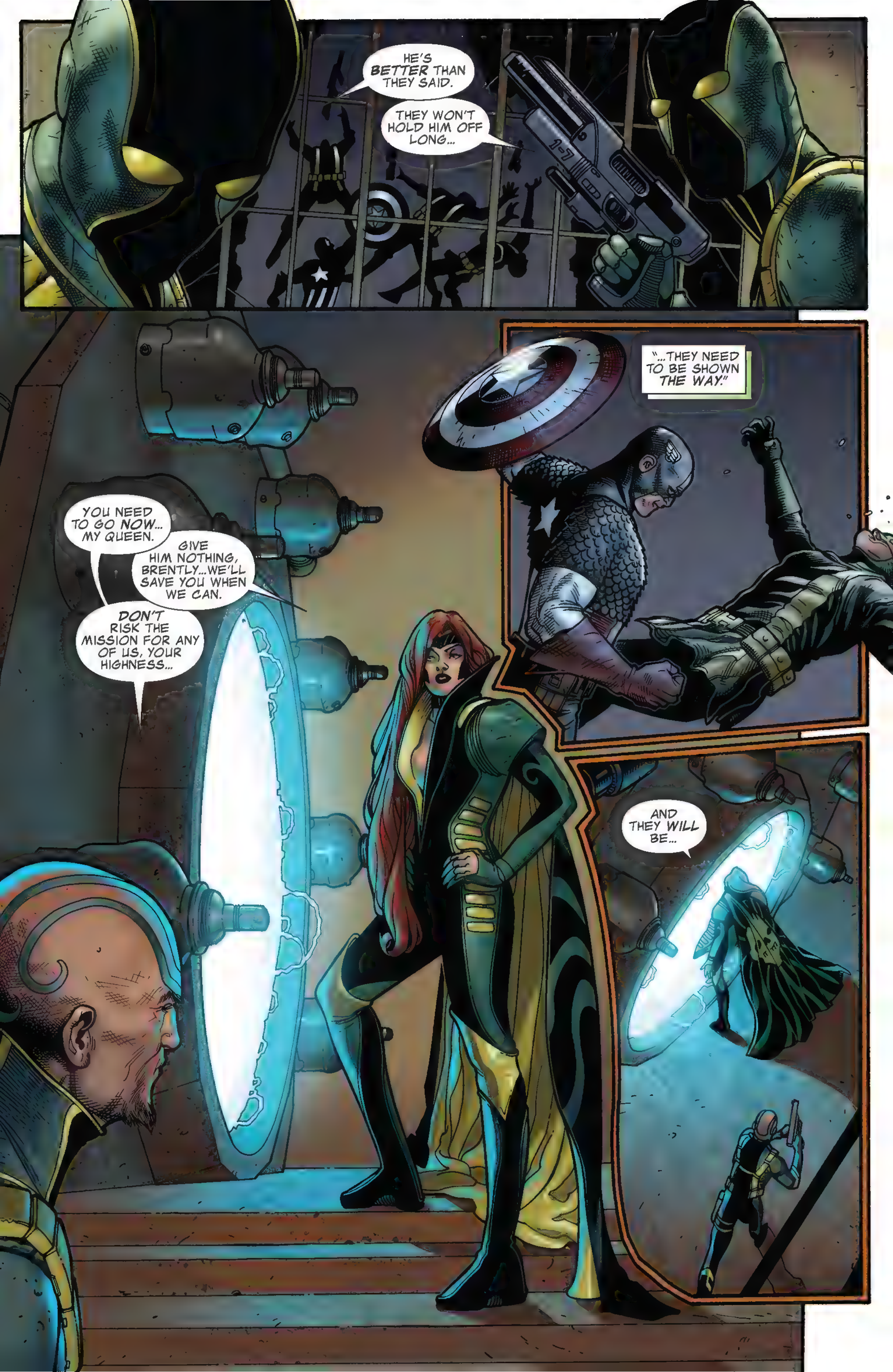

"BUT THE RESISTANCE HAD A SPY IN THEIR MIDST."
DIE!
KID!
KNNNCH
"WE WEREN'T PREPARED FOR THAT."
HAIL--
...HYDRA...
SHHKKK
KID... C'MON, KID... DON'T BE DEAD...
YA CAN'T BE...
AH, CRAP...
THE PORTAL.

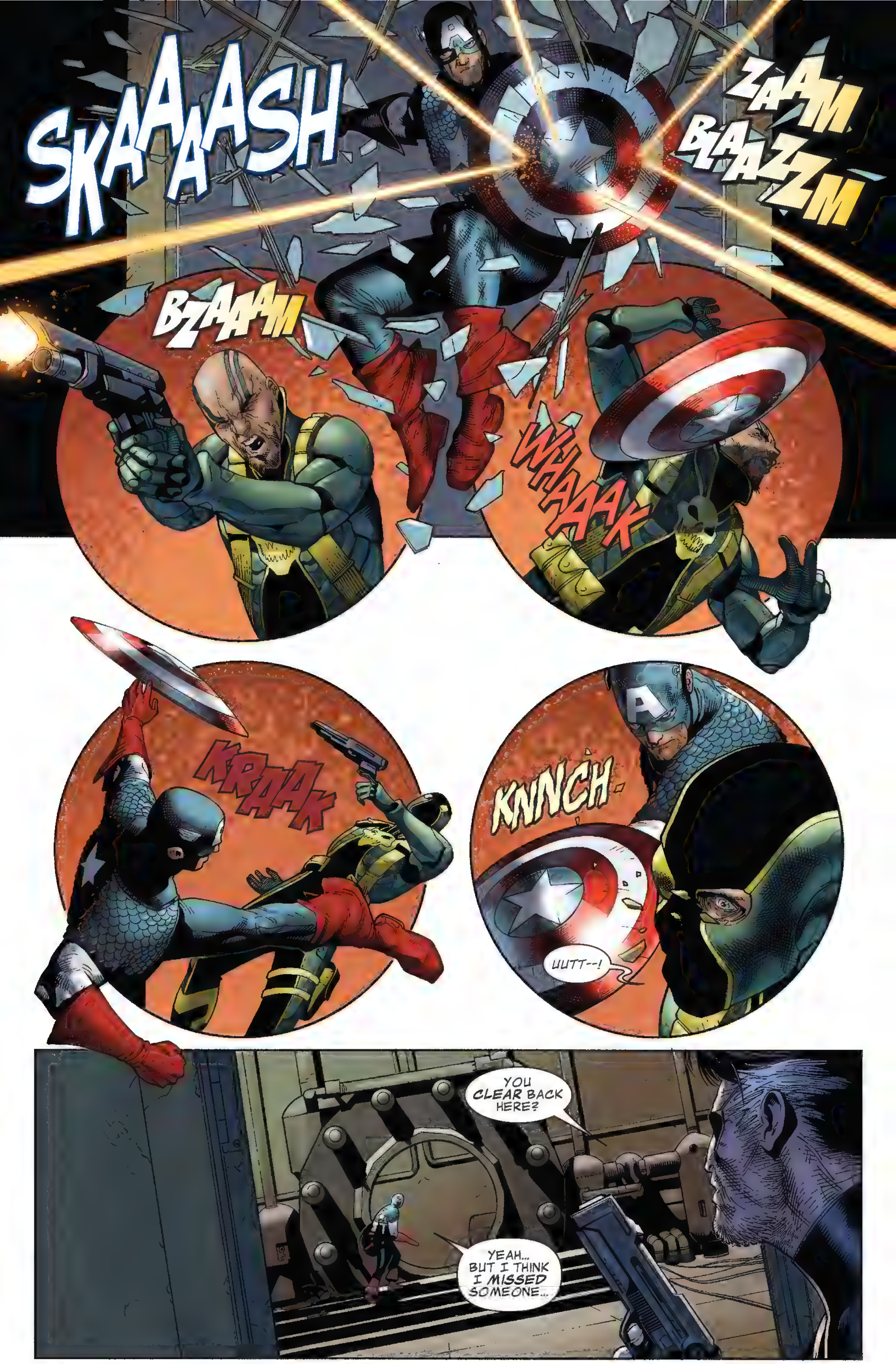

SO...BRAVO AND HIS TEAM WERE STUCK IN SOME KIND OF DREAMWORLD FOR DECADES?
YEP...ALONG WITH THE HYDRA AGENTS JIMMY WAS TAPPED INTO, TOO, APPARENTLY.
JIMMY WAS IN A COMA, SO WE HAD NO WAY TO GET THEM OUT...
AND NO IDEA WHAT KIND OF HELL THAT PLACE WAS WITHOUT HIM CONTROLLING IT.
CLEARLY TIME DIDN'T WORK THE SAME, SINCE THEY HAVEN'T AGED.
IT COULD HAVE FELT LIKE CENTURIES TO THEM.
WELL, YOU CAN ASK THEM IN A MINUTE, ROGERS.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THEM?
NOT SURE...BUT I'D BET ON IT.
THEY BEEN OUT SIX MONTHS, BUT THEIR TECH IS CUTTING EDGE.
FOUR MONTHS AGO, WE GOT REPORTS OF A FEW A.I.M. AGENTS WASHING UP ON SHORE IN JERSEY...
SO NOW WE THINK BRAVO'S GUYS SEIZED AN A.I.M. BASE TO WEAPON UP...
TOOK ALL DAY TO TRACK THE LIKELIEST SUSPECT...

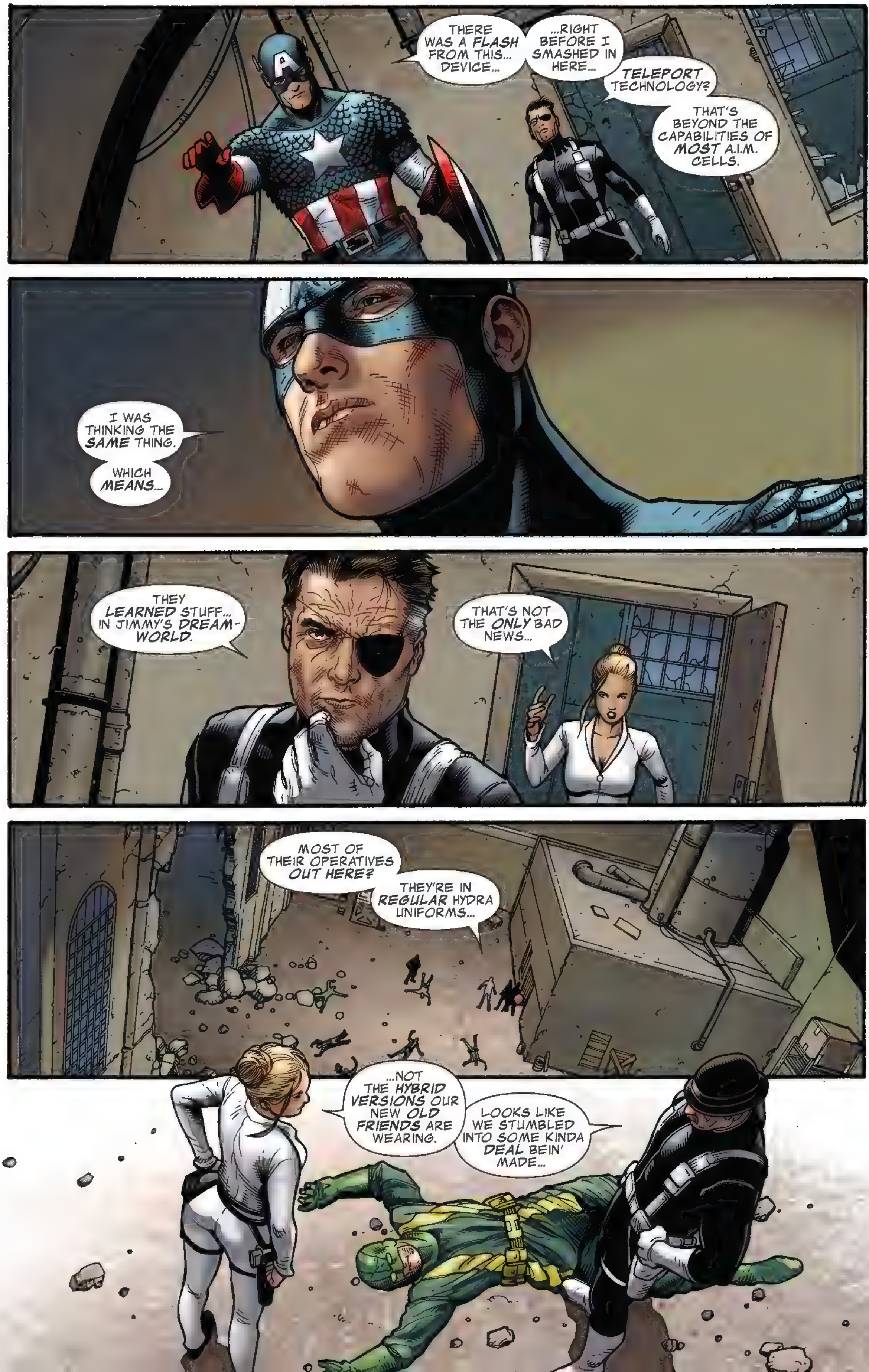

THAT FACTORY BUILDING ABOUT TWO-HUNDRED FEET BELOW TO THE NORTH?
I CAN'T SEE IT YET...BUT YEAH.
HOW'D YOU KNOW?
THEY JUST SHOT AT US.
AH, CRUD...
EVASIVE ACTION!
SO MUCH FOR THE STEALTH APPROACH!
SEE YOU ON THE GROUND.
GET ME A TARGET LOCK, DAMN IT. WE MISSED.
SOMETHING'S IN THE WAY... WHAT IS--
KWAAM
FSSSHH

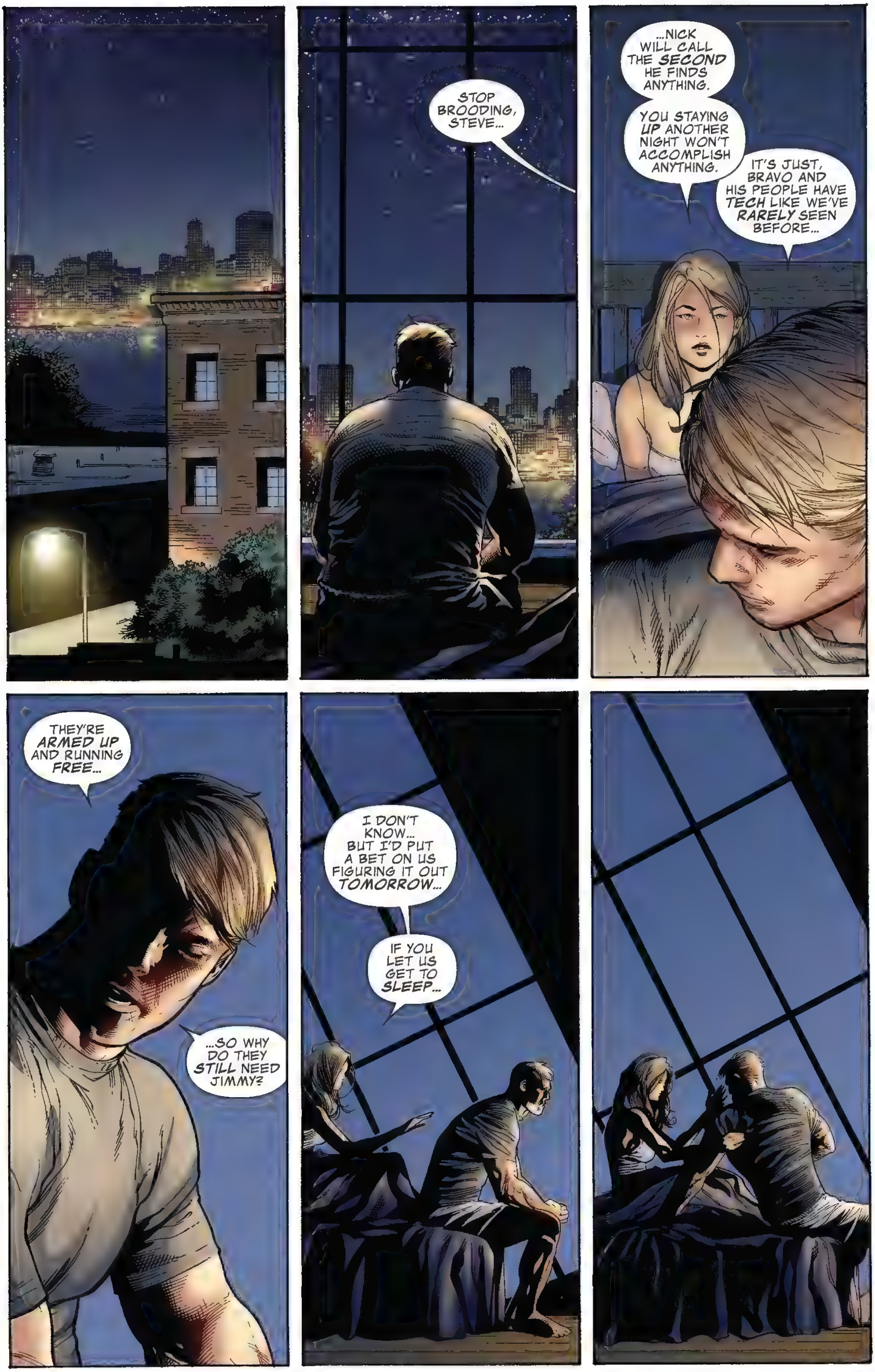

THEY'RE HERE!
WE'VE BEEN BREACHED!
RATATATAT ATATATAT
KA-THOOOM

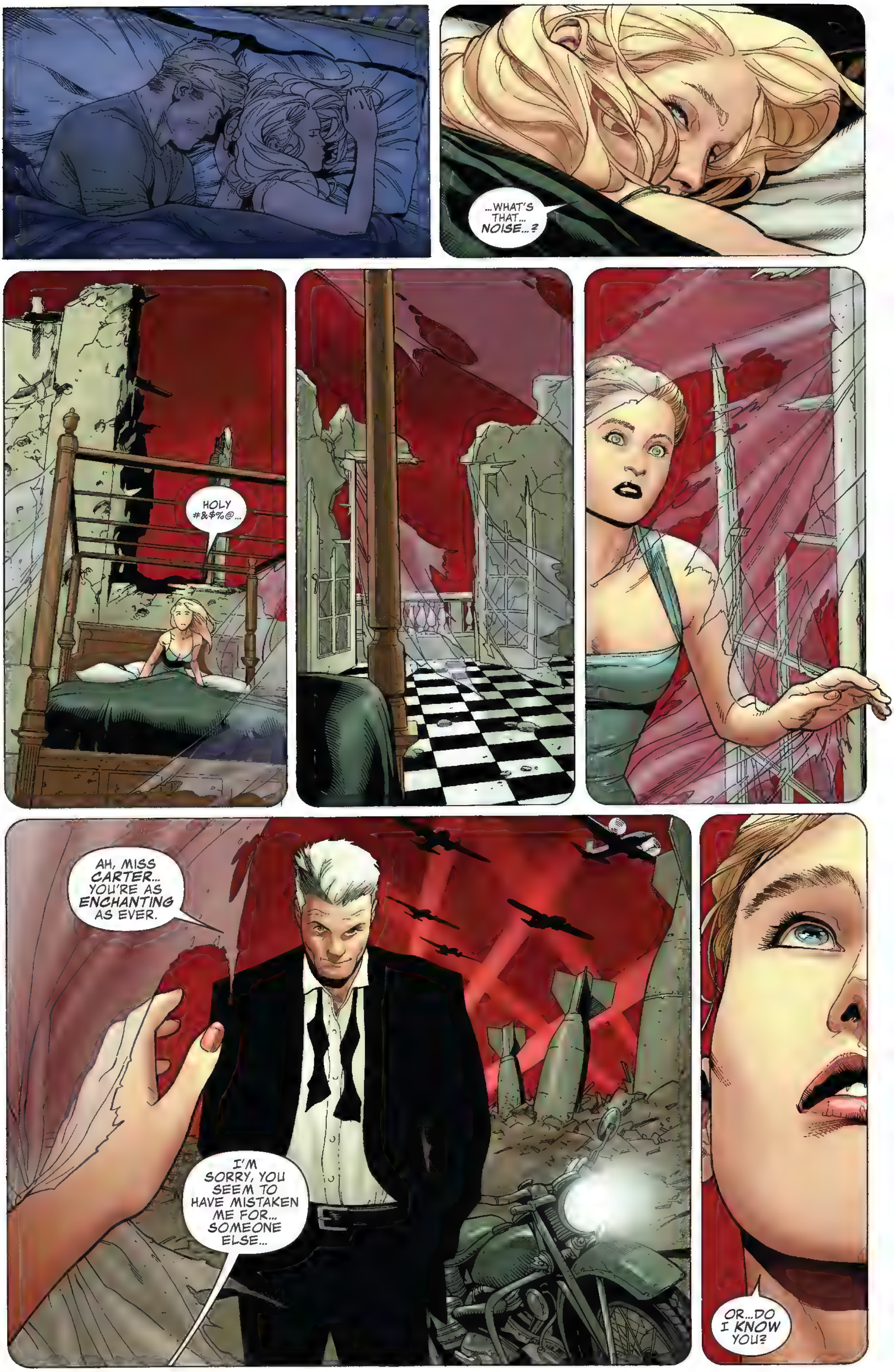

UUUKK--
WE GOT YOUR BACK, CAP!
GET INSIDE-- BREAK THEIR LINE!
WAY AHEAD OF YOU, AGENT 13!
WAAK
KWAAK
BRAATATAT ATATATAT

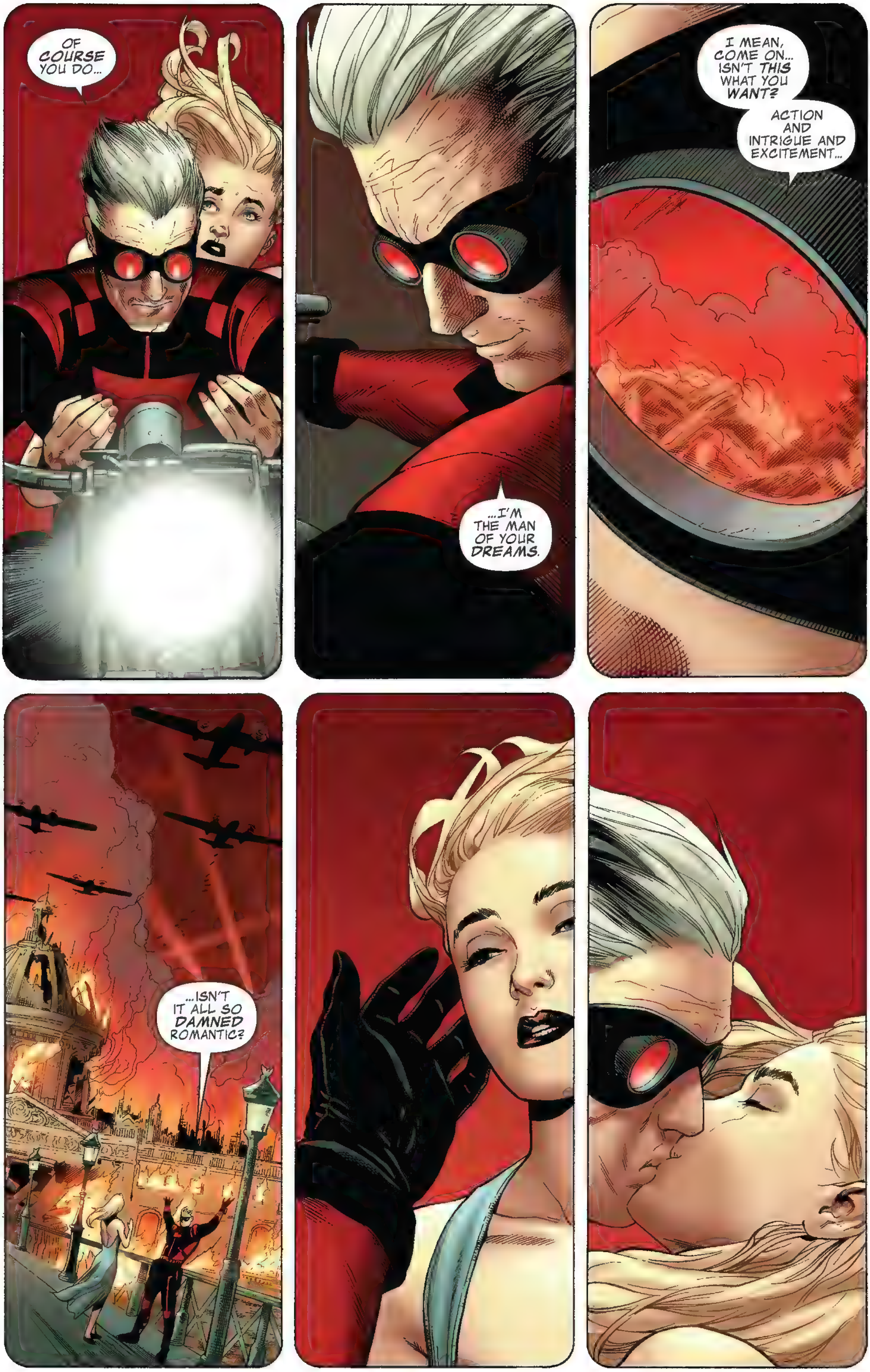

HE'S BETTER THAN THEY SAID.
THEY WON'T HOLD HIM OFF LONG...
YOU NEED TO GO NOW... MY QUEEN.
GIVE HIM NOTHING, BRENTLY...WE'LL SAVE YOU WHEN WE CAN.
DON'T RISK THE MISSION FOR ANY OF US, YOUR HIGHNESS...
"...THEY NEED TO BE SHOWN THE WAY."
AND THEY WILL BE...

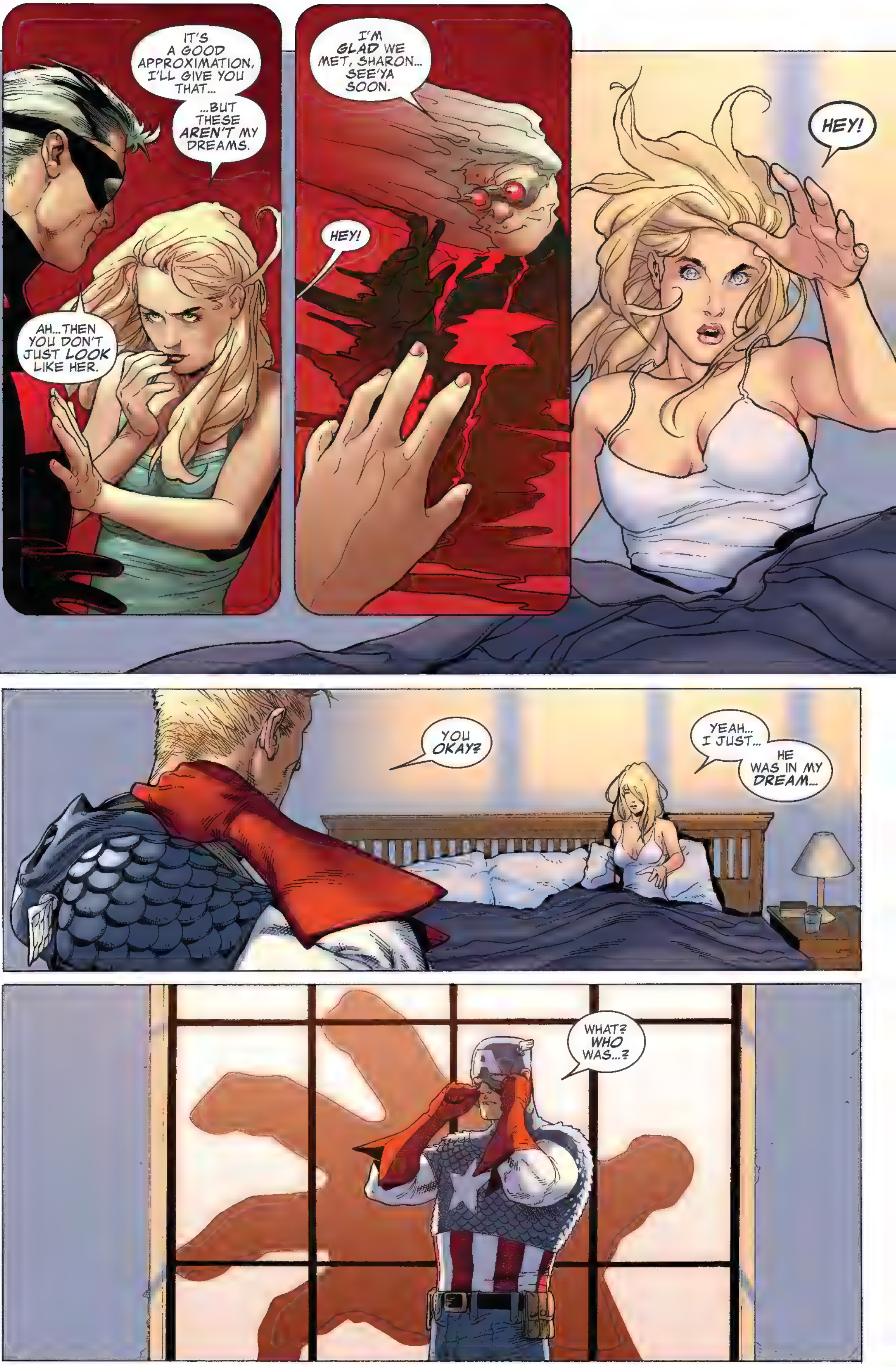

SKAAAAASH
ZAAM
BLAAZZM
BZAAAM
WHAAAK
KRAAK
KNNCH
UUTT--!
YOU CLEAR BACK HERE?
YEAH... BUT I THINK I MISSED SOMEONE...

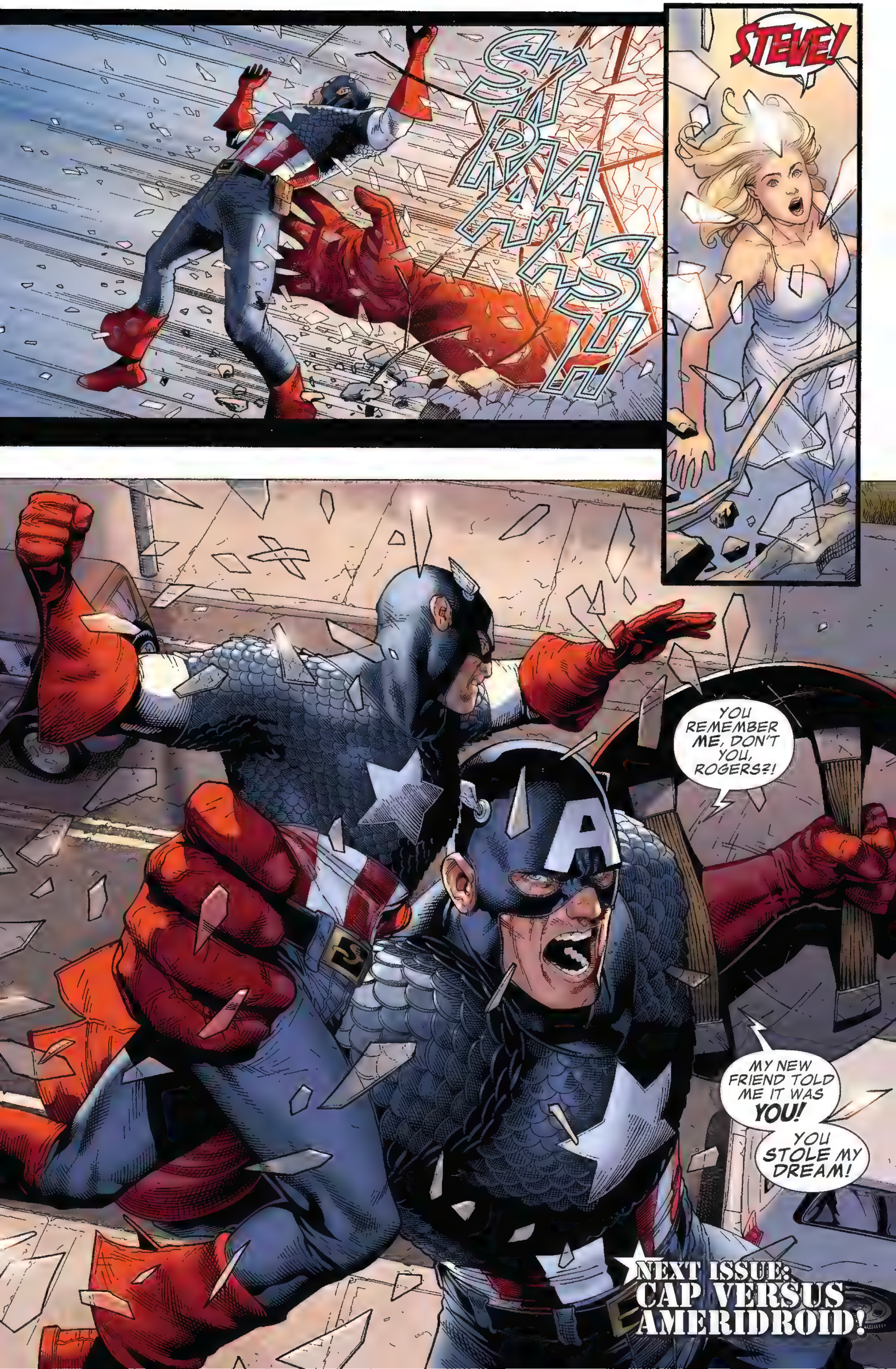

THERE WAS A *FLASH* FROM THIS... DEVICE...
...RIGHT BEFORE I SMASHED IN HERE...
TELEPORT TECHNOLOGY?
THAT'S BEYOND THE CAPABILITIES OF *MOST* A.I.M. CELLS.
I WAS THINKING THE *SAME* THING.
WHICH *MEANS*...
THEY *LEARNED* STUFF... IN JIMMY'S *DREAM-WORLD.*
THAT'S NOT THE *ONLY* BAD NEWS...
MOST OF THEIR OPERATIVES *OUT HERE?*
THEY'RE IN *REGULAR* HYDRA UNIFORMS...
...NOT THE *HYBRID VERSIONS* OUR NEW *OLD FRIENDS* ARE WEARING.
LOOKS LIKE WE STUMBLED INTO SOME KINDA *DEAL* BEIN' MADE...


STOP BROODING, STEVE...
...NICK WILL CALL THE *SECOND* HE FINDS ANYTHING.
YOU STAYING *UP* ANOTHER NIGHT WON'T ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING.
IT'S JUST, BRAVO AND HIS PEOPLE HAVE *TECH* LIKE WE'VE *RARELY* SEEN BEFORE...
THEY'RE *ARMED UP* AND RUNNING *FREE*...
...SO WHY DO THEY *STILL* NEED JIMMY?
I DON'T KNOW... BUT I'D PUT A BET ON US FIGURING IT OUT *TOMORROW*...
IF YOU LET US GET TO *SLEEP*...

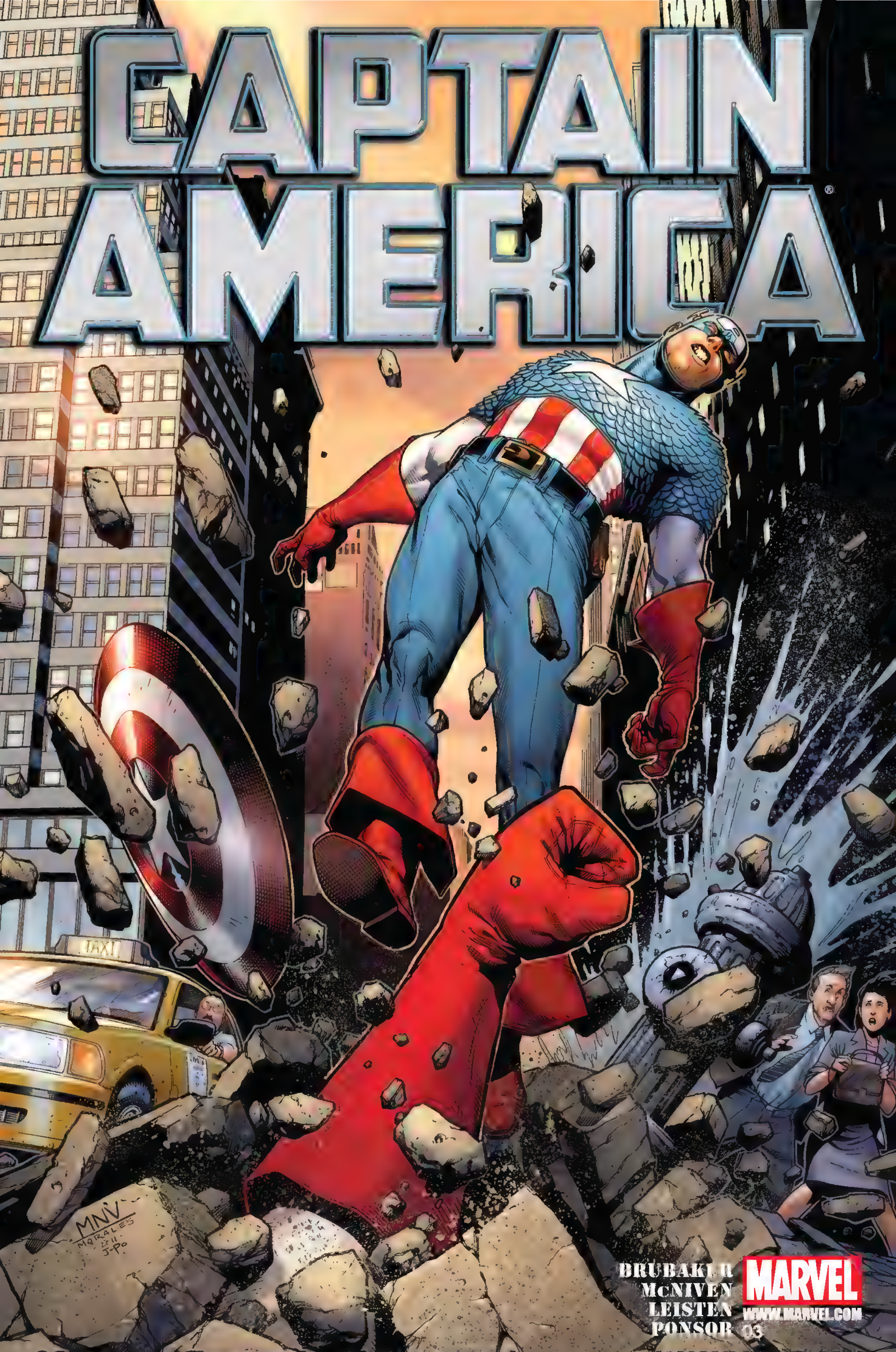

...WHAT'S THAT... NOISE...?
HOLY #&$%@...
AH, MISS CARTER... YOU'RE AS ENCHANTING AS EVER.
I'M SORRY, YOU SEEM TO HAVE MISTAKEN ME FOR... SOMEONE ELSE...
OR...DO I KNOW YOU?


OF COURSE YOU DO...
...I'M THE MAN OF YOUR DREAMS.
I MEAN, COME ON... ISN'T THIS WHAT YOU WANT?
ACTION AND INTRIGUE AND EXCITEMENT...
...ISN'T IT ALL SO DAMNED ROMANTIC?


IT'S A GOOD APPROXIMATION, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT...
...BUT THESE *AREN'T* MY DREAMS.
AH...THEN YOU DON'T JUST *LOOK* LIKE HER.
I'M *GLAD* WE MET, SHARON... SEE'YA SOON.
HEY!
HEY!
YOU *OKAY?*
YEAH... I JUST...
HE WAS IN MY *DREAM*...
WHAT? *WHO* WAS...?


SKRAAASH
STEVE!
YOU REMEMBER ME, DON'T YOU, ROGERS?!
MY NEW FRIEND TOLD ME IT WAS YOU!
YOU STOLE MY DREAM!
NEXT ISSUE: CAP VERSUS AMERIDROID!

CAPTAIN AMERICA


TAXI
MNV
Morales
'11
J-Po

BRUBAKER
McNIVEN
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03

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DURING THE DARK DAYS OF THE EARLY 1940S, A COVERT MILITARY EXPERIMENT TURNED STEVE ROGERS INTO AMERICA'S FIRST SUPER-SOLDIER, CAPTAIN AMERICA. THROUGHOUT THE WAR, CAP AND HIS PARTNER BUCKY FOUGHT ALONGSIDE OUR INFANTRY AND WITH A GROUP OF HEROES KNOWN AS THE INVADERS. IN THE CLOSING MONTHS OF WWII, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WERE BOTH PRESUMED DEAD IN AN EXPLOSION OVER THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

DECADES LATER, A FIGURE WAS FOUND TRAPPED IN ICE, AND CAPTAIN AMERICA WAS REVIVED. HAVING SLEPT THROUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE 20TH CENTURY, STEVE ROGERS AWAKENED TO A WORLD HE NEVER IMAGINED. A WORLD WHERE WAR HAD MOVED FROM THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE CITY STREETS...A WORLD IN DIRE NEED OF...

CAPTAIN AMERICA

AFTER BARELY ESCAPING AN AMBUSH SET BY ONE CODENAME BRAVO, AN ALLIED OPERATIVE NOT SEEN SINCE 1944, STEVE ROGERS, SHARON CARTER, NICK FURY AND DUM DUM DUGAN WERE LED TO INQUIRE AFTER THE NOW ELDERLY JIMMY JANKOVICZ, AKA JIMMY JUPITER. IN HIS YOUTH, JUPITER USED HIS ABILITY TO ENTER AN ALTERNATE REALITY KNOWN AS THE LAND OF NOWHERE TO HELP THE ALLIED CAUSE IN THE WAR. WHEN JIMMY WAS INJURED IN HIS FIRST MISSION, BRAVO AND A NUMBER OF ENEMY AGENTS WERE STRANDED IN THE DREAM WORLD. NOW CATATONIC, JANKOVICZ WAS KIDNAPPED BY HYDRA AGENTS IN HIGH-TECH SUITS ON THE ORDERS OF A NEW QUEEN HYDRA...WHO SEEMED TO BE IN LEAGUE WITH BRAVO AND BARON ZEMO. DISCONCERTED BY STRANGELY REALISTIC DREAMS OF BRAVO, SHARON WOKE UP TO STEVE BEING GRABBED BY THE MONSTROUS AMERIDROID!

AMERICAN DREAMERS PART 3

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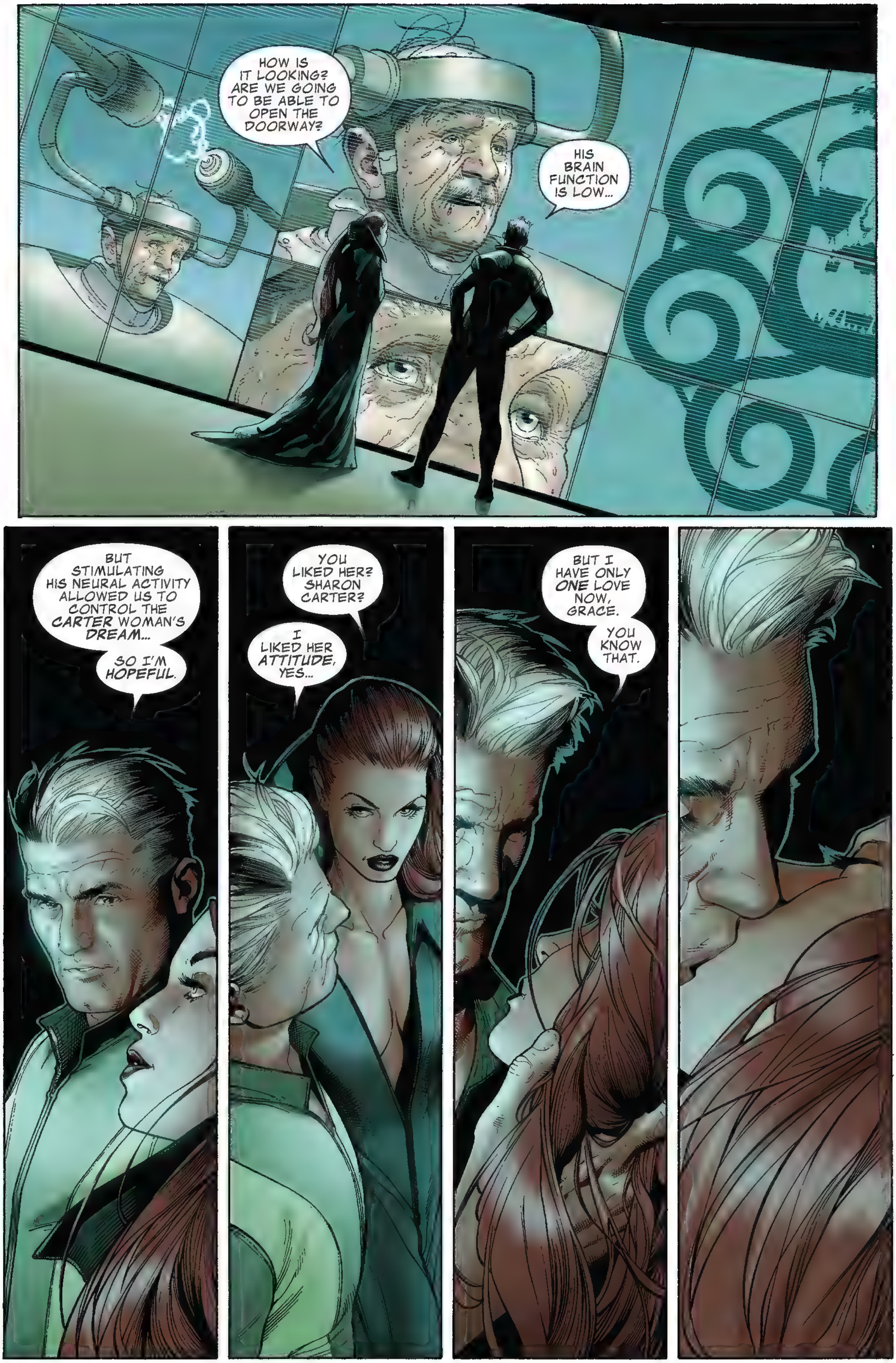
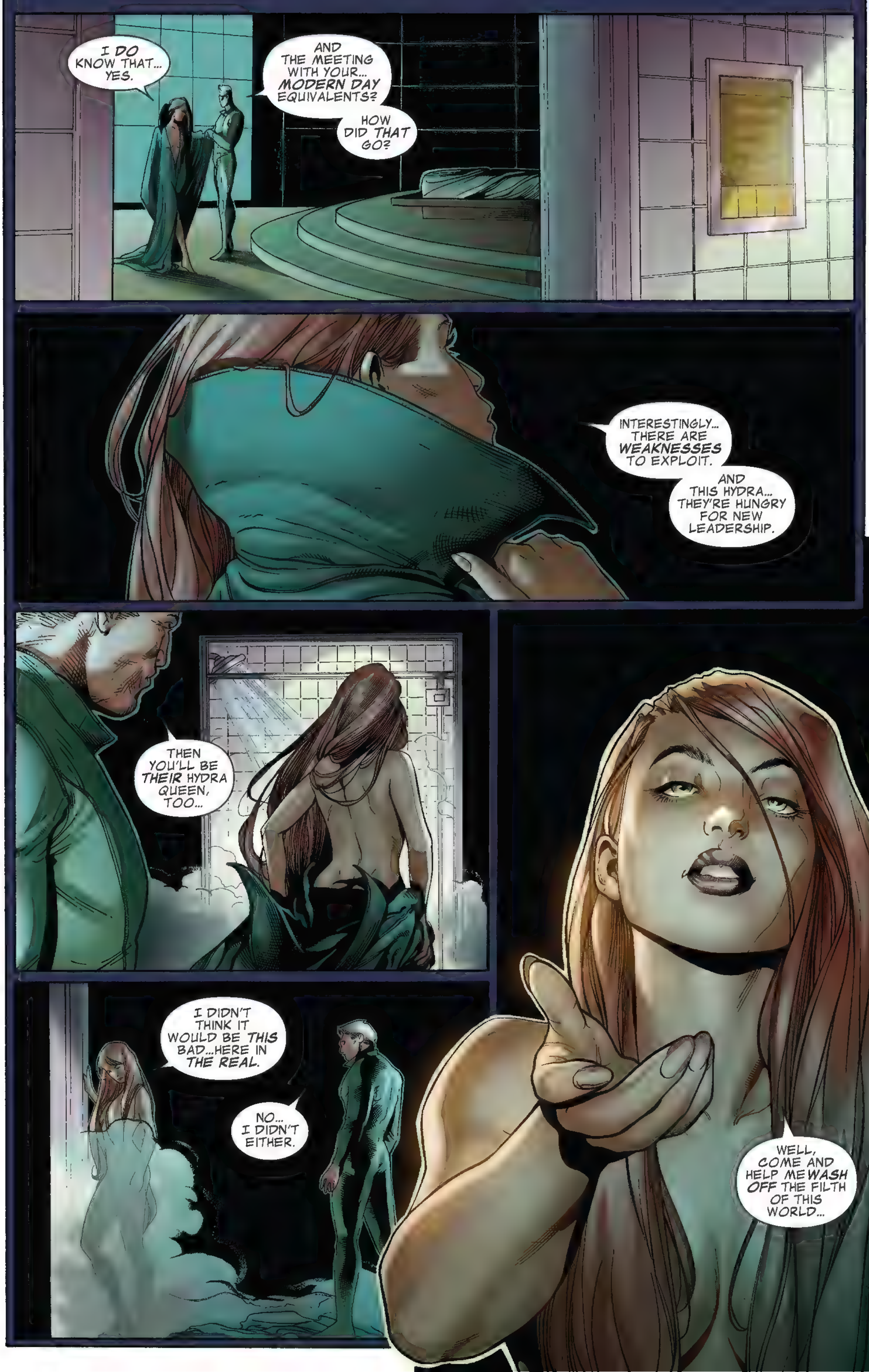
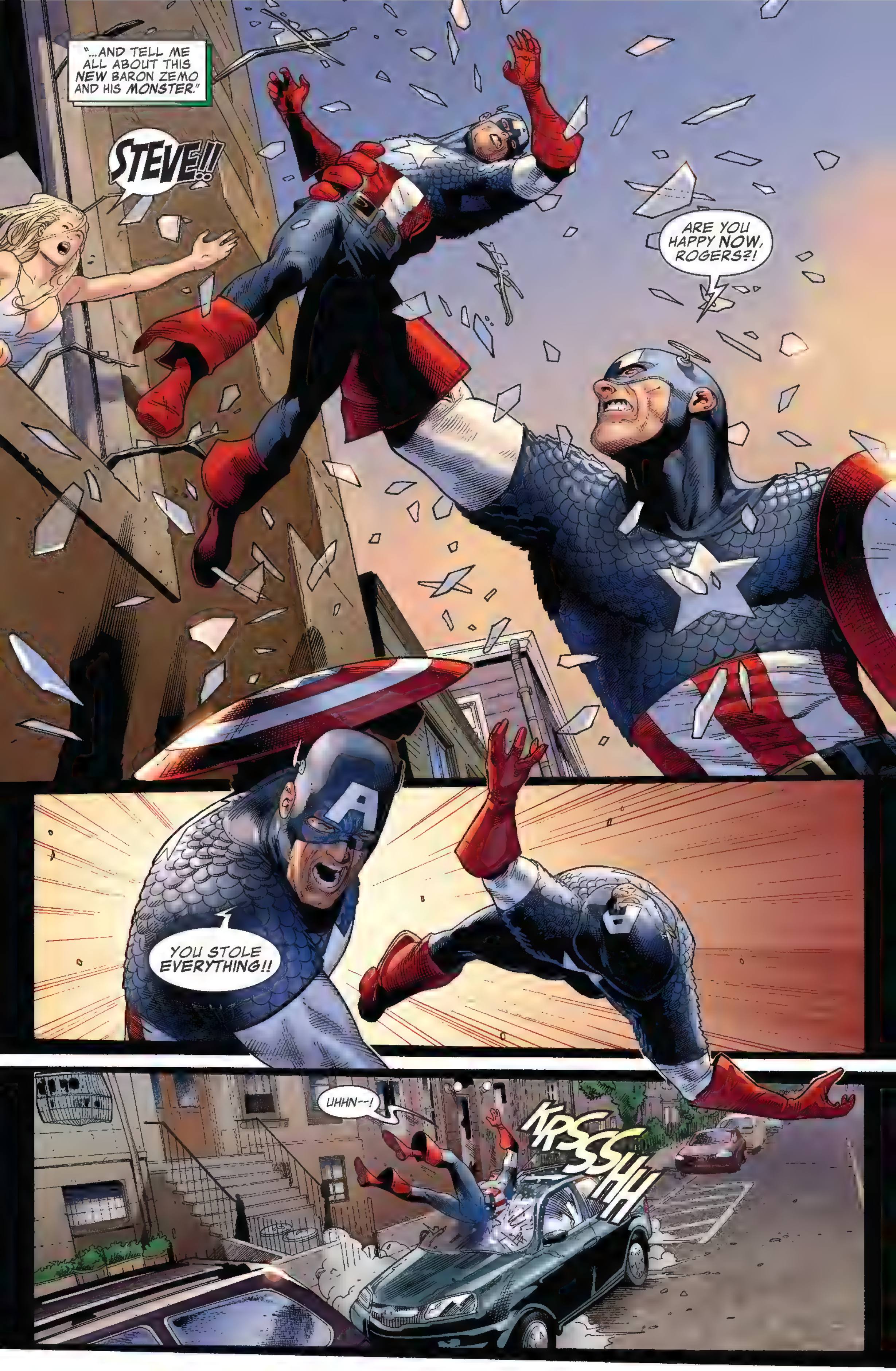
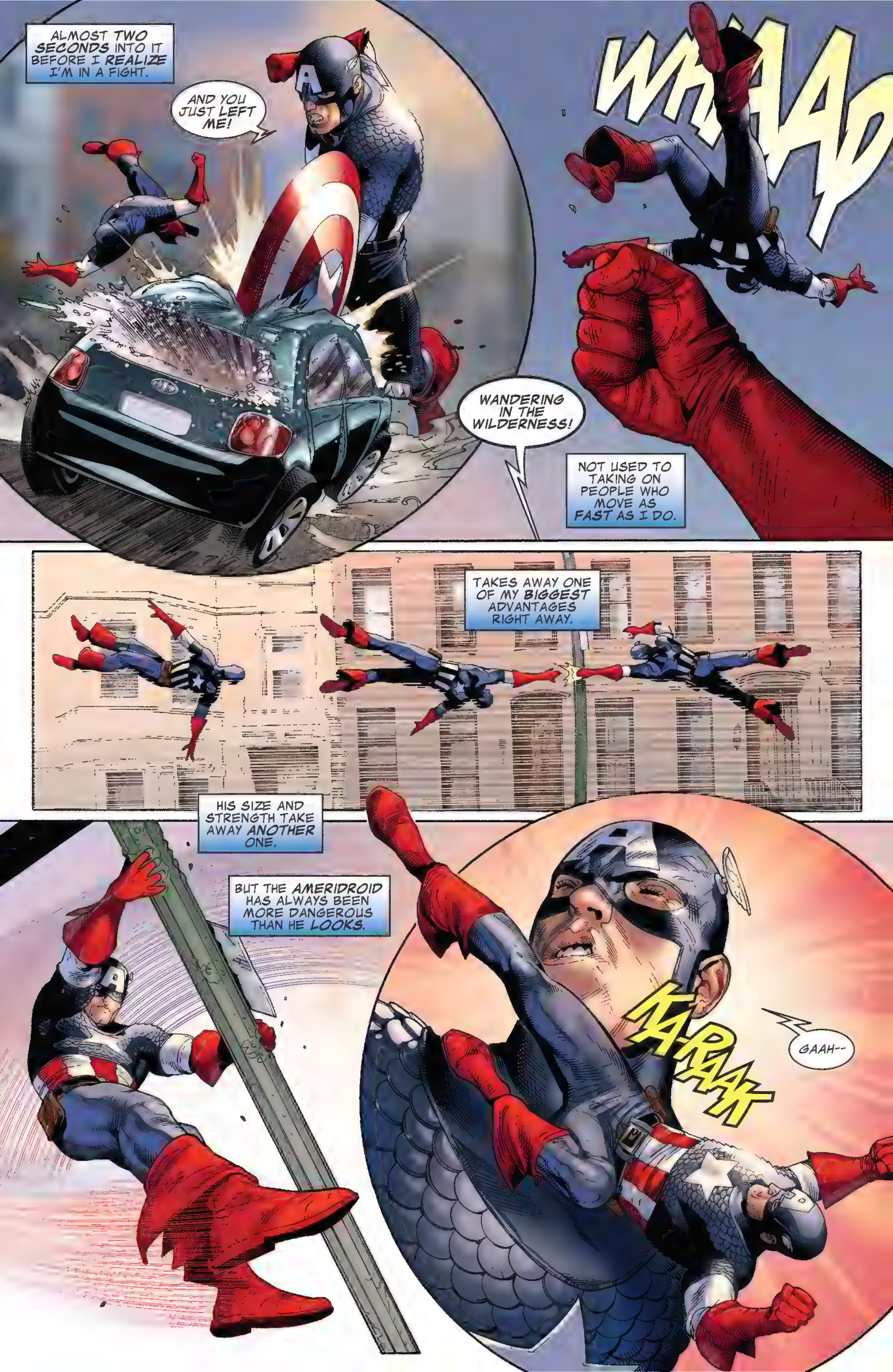
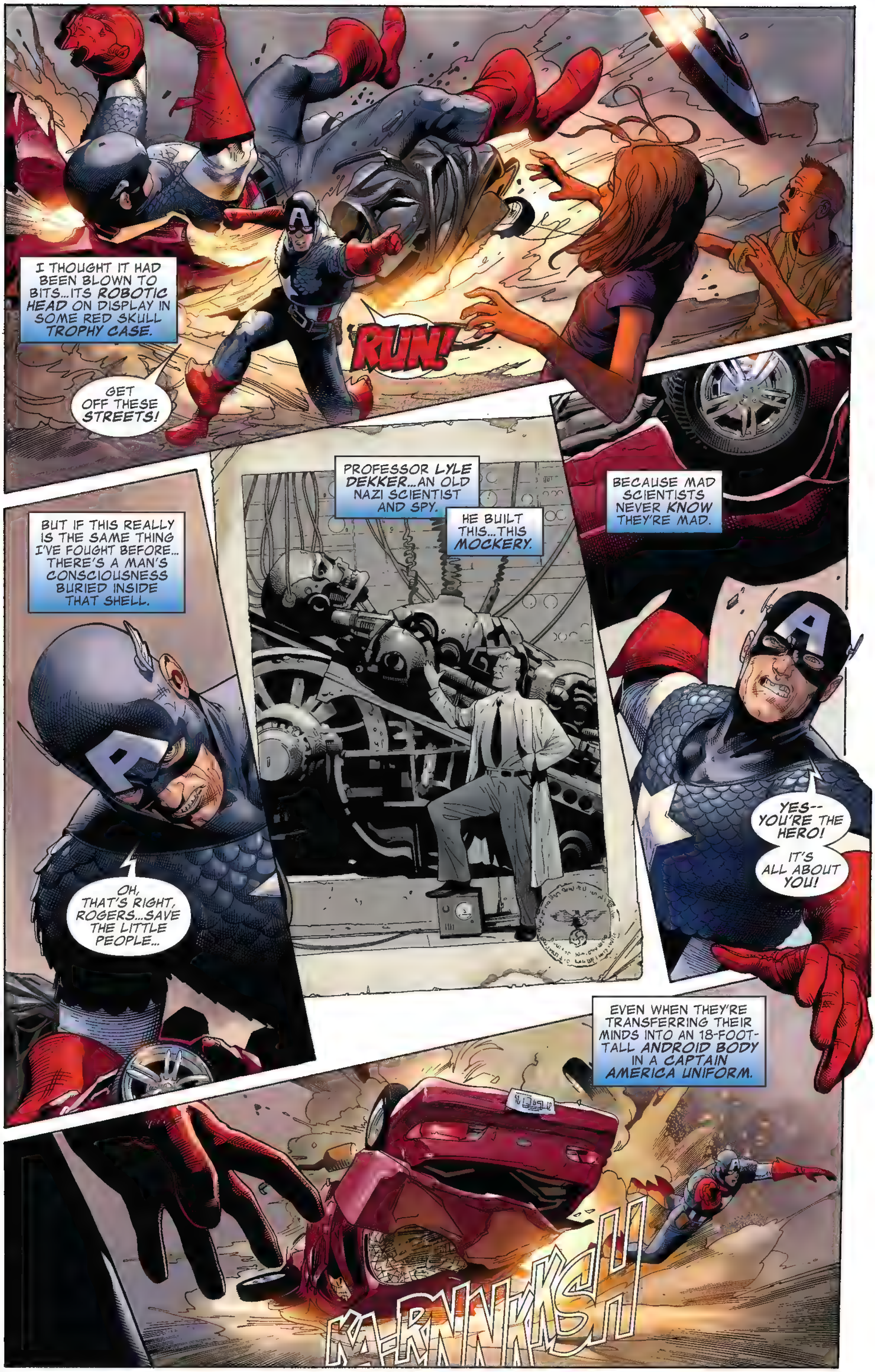
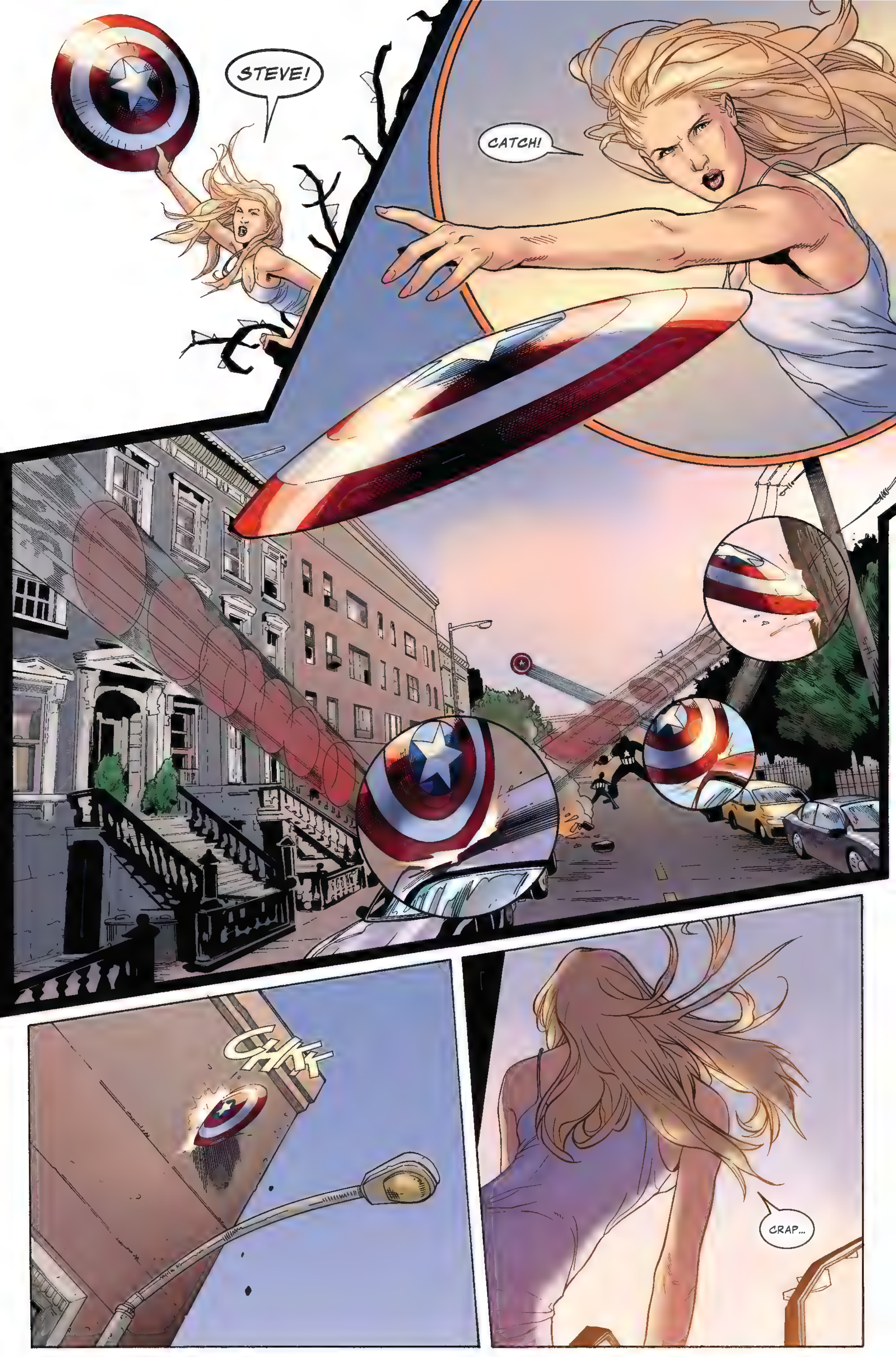

HOW IS IT LOOKING? ARE WE GOING TO BE ABLE TO OPEN THE DOORWAY?
HIS BRAIN FUNCTION IS LOW...
BUT STIMULATING HIS NEURAL ACTIVITY ALLOWED US TO CONTROL THE *CARTER* WOMAN'S *DREAM*...
SO I'M *HOPEFUL.*
YOU LIKED HER? SHARON CARTER?
I LIKED HER *ATTITUDE,* YES...
BUT I HAVE ONLY *ONE* LOVE NOW, GRACE.
YOU KNOW THAT.

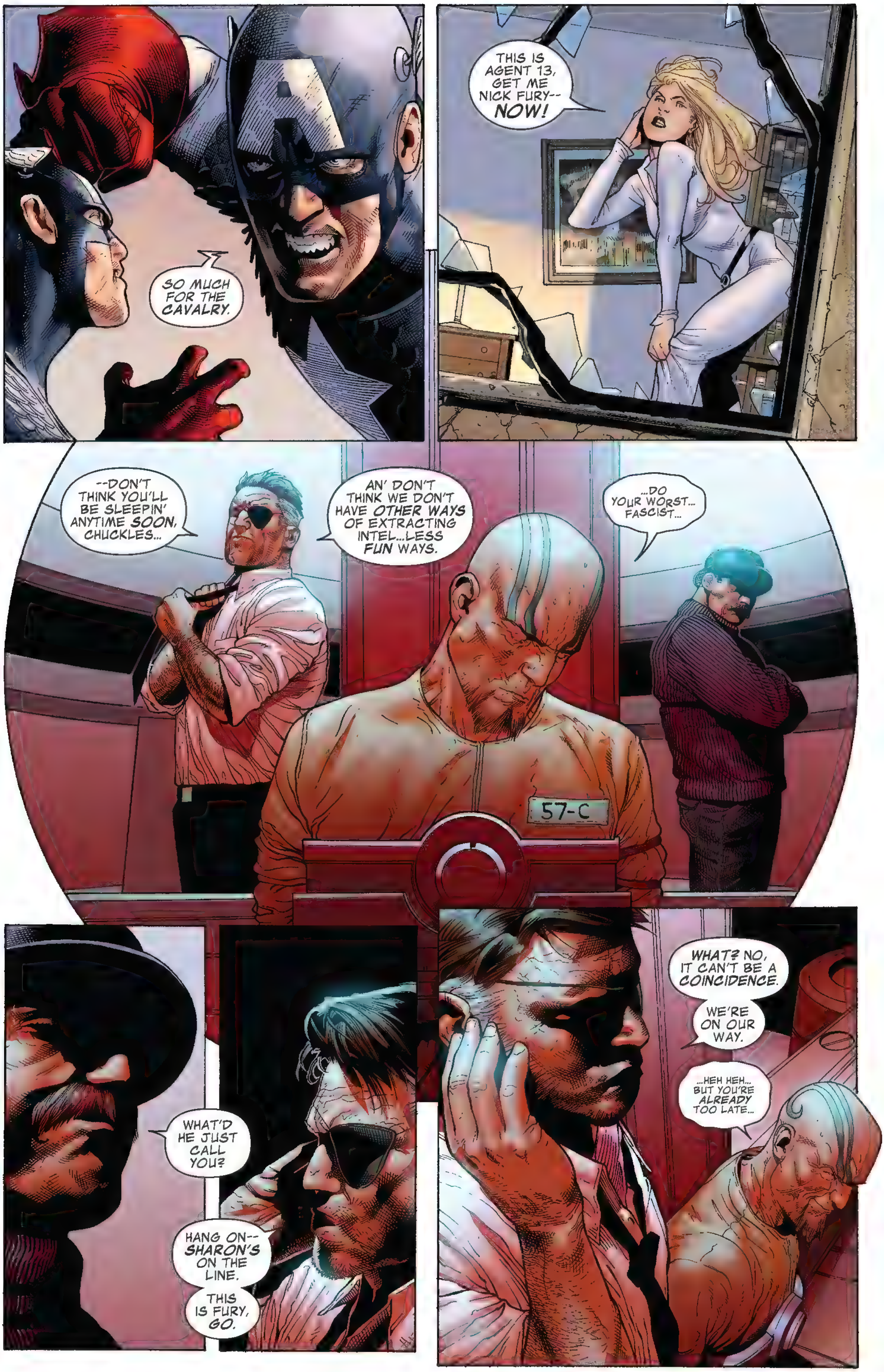

I *DO* KNOW THAT... YES.
AND THE MEETING WITH YOUR... *MODERN DAY* EQUIVALENTS?
HOW DID *THAT* GO?
INTERESTINGLY... THERE ARE *WEAKNESSES* TO EXPLOIT.
AND THIS HYDRA... THEY'RE HUNGRY FOR NEW LEADERSHIP.
THEN YOU'LL BE *THEIR* HYDRA QUEEN, TOO...
I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE *THIS* BAD...HERE IN *THE REAL.*
NO... I DIDN'T EITHER.
WELL, COME AND HELP ME *WASH OFF* THE FILTH OF THIS WORLD...

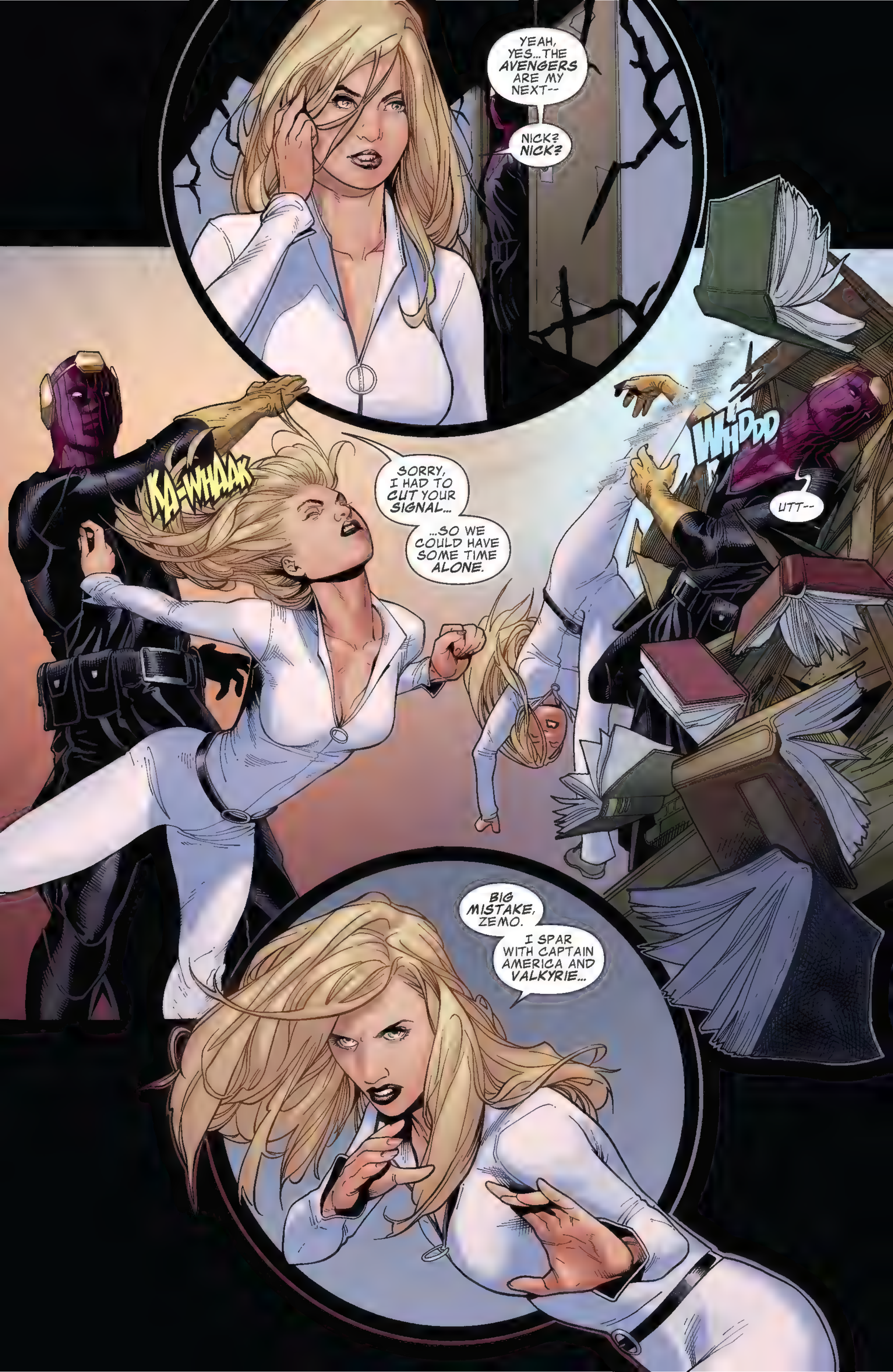

"...AND TELL ME ALL ABOUT THIS NEW BARON ZEMO AND HIS MONSTER."
STEVE!!
ARE YOU HAPPY NOW, ROGERS?!
YOU STOLE EVERYTHING!!
UHHN--!
KRSSHH

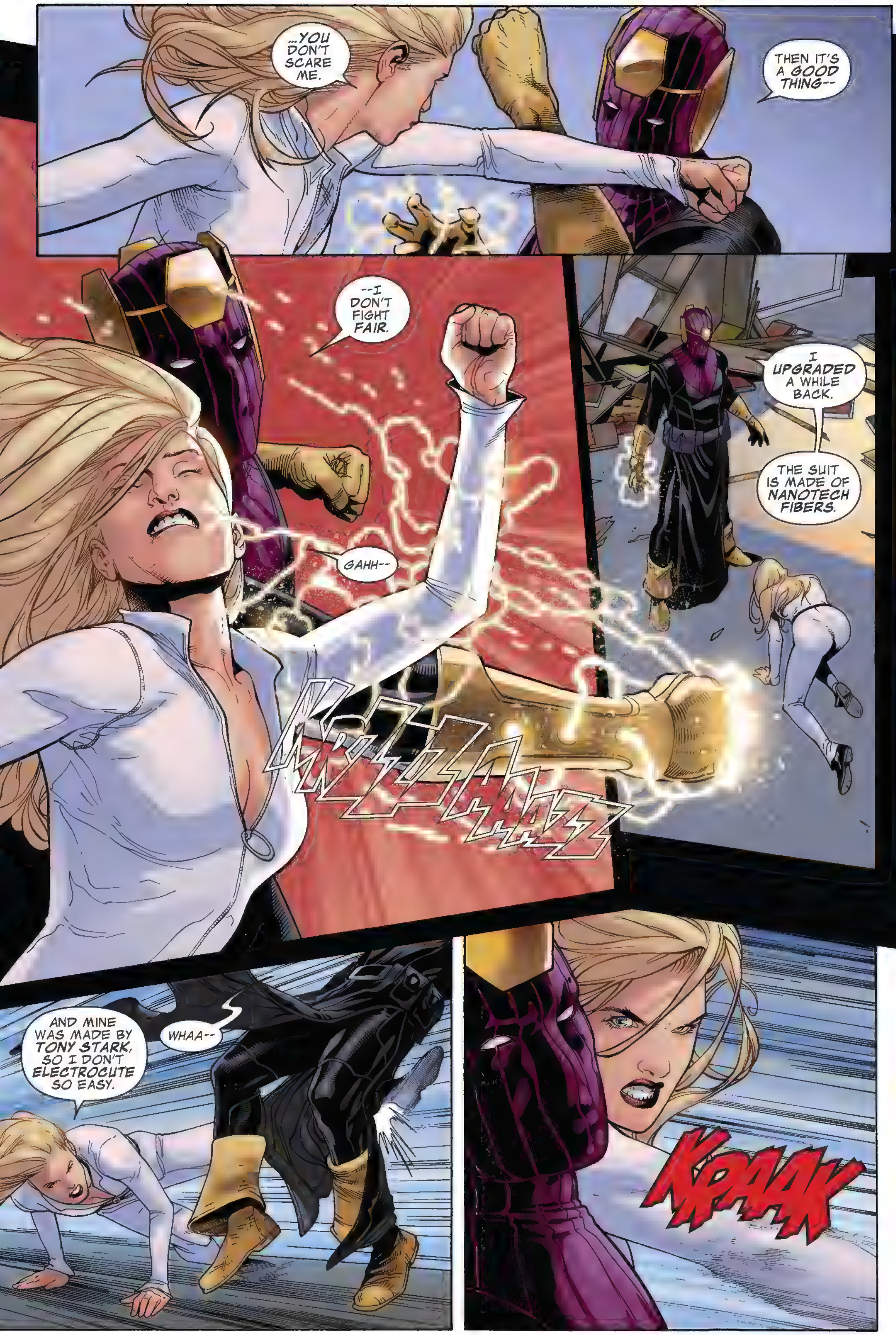

ALMOST TWO SECONDS INTO IT BEFORE I REALIZE I'M IN A FIGHT.
AND YOU JUST LEFT ME!
WHAAAD
WANDERING IN THE WILDERNESS!
NOT USED TO TAKING ON PEOPLE WHO MOVE AS FAST AS I DO.
TAKES AWAY ONE OF MY BIGGEST ADVANTAGES RIGHT AWAY.
HIS SIZE AND STRENGTH TAKE AWAY ANOTHER ONE.
BUT THE AMERIDROID HAS ALWAYS BEEN MORE DANGEROUS THAN HE LOOKS.
KA-RAAK
GAAH--

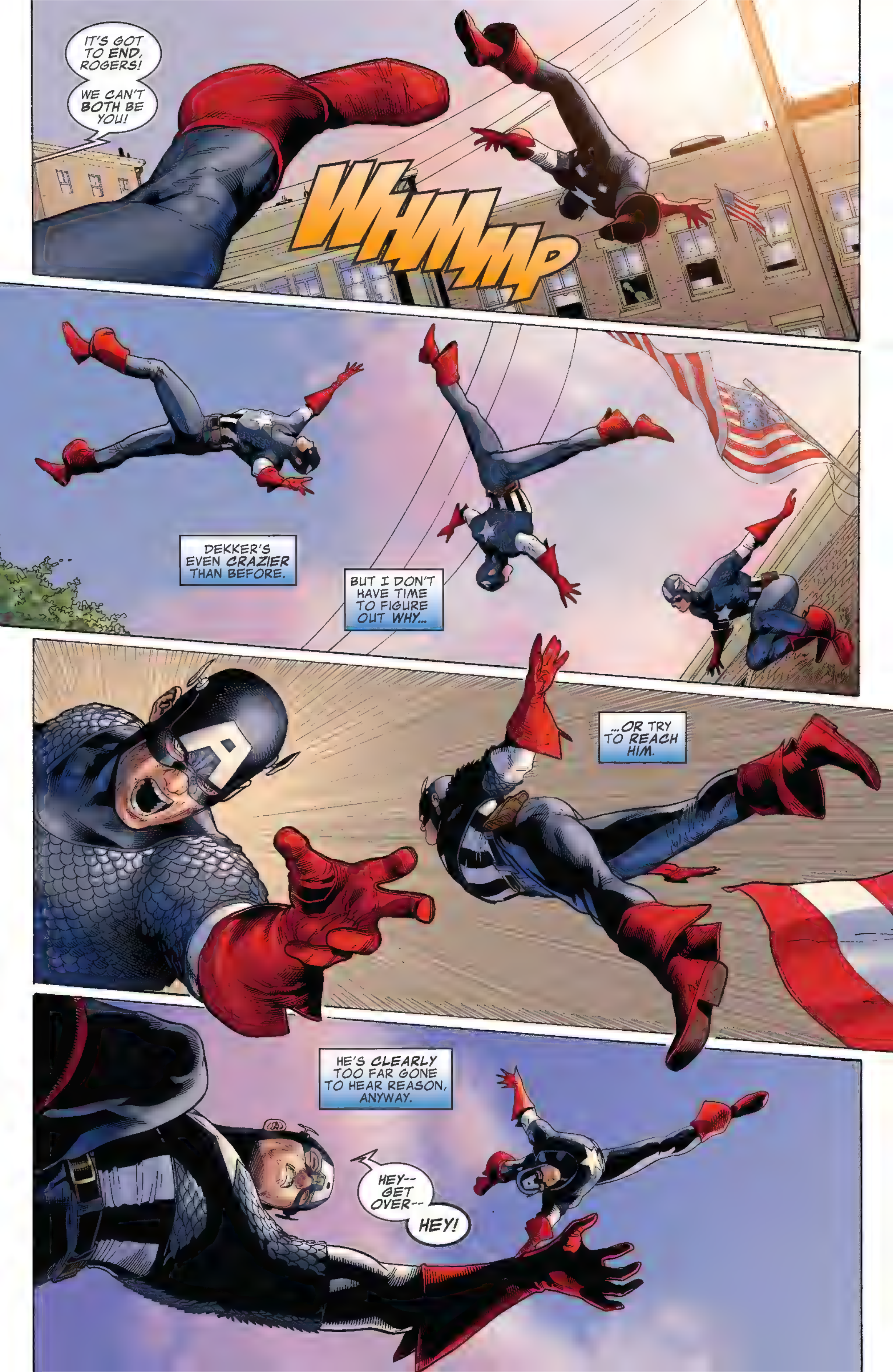

I THOUGHT IT HAD BEEN BLOWN TO BITS...ITS ROBOTIC HEAD ON DISPLAY IN SOME RED SKULL TROPHY CASE.
RUN!
GET OFF THESE STREETS!
PROFESSOR LYLE DEKKER...AN OLD NAZI SCIENTIST AND SPY.
HE BUILT THIS...THIS MOCKERY.
BECAUSE MAD SCIENTISTS NEVER KNOW THEY'RE MAD.
BUT IF THIS REALLY IS THE SAME THING I'VE FOUGHT BEFORE... THERE'S A MAN'S CONSCIOUSNESS BURIED INSIDE THAT SHELL.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT, ROGERS...SAVE THE LITTLE PEOPLE...
YES-- YOU'RE THE HERO!
IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU!
EVEN WHEN THEY'RE TRANSFERRING THEIR MINDS INTO AN 18-FOOT-TALL ANDROID BODY IN A CAPTAIN AMERICA UNIFORM.
KARNNNKKSH

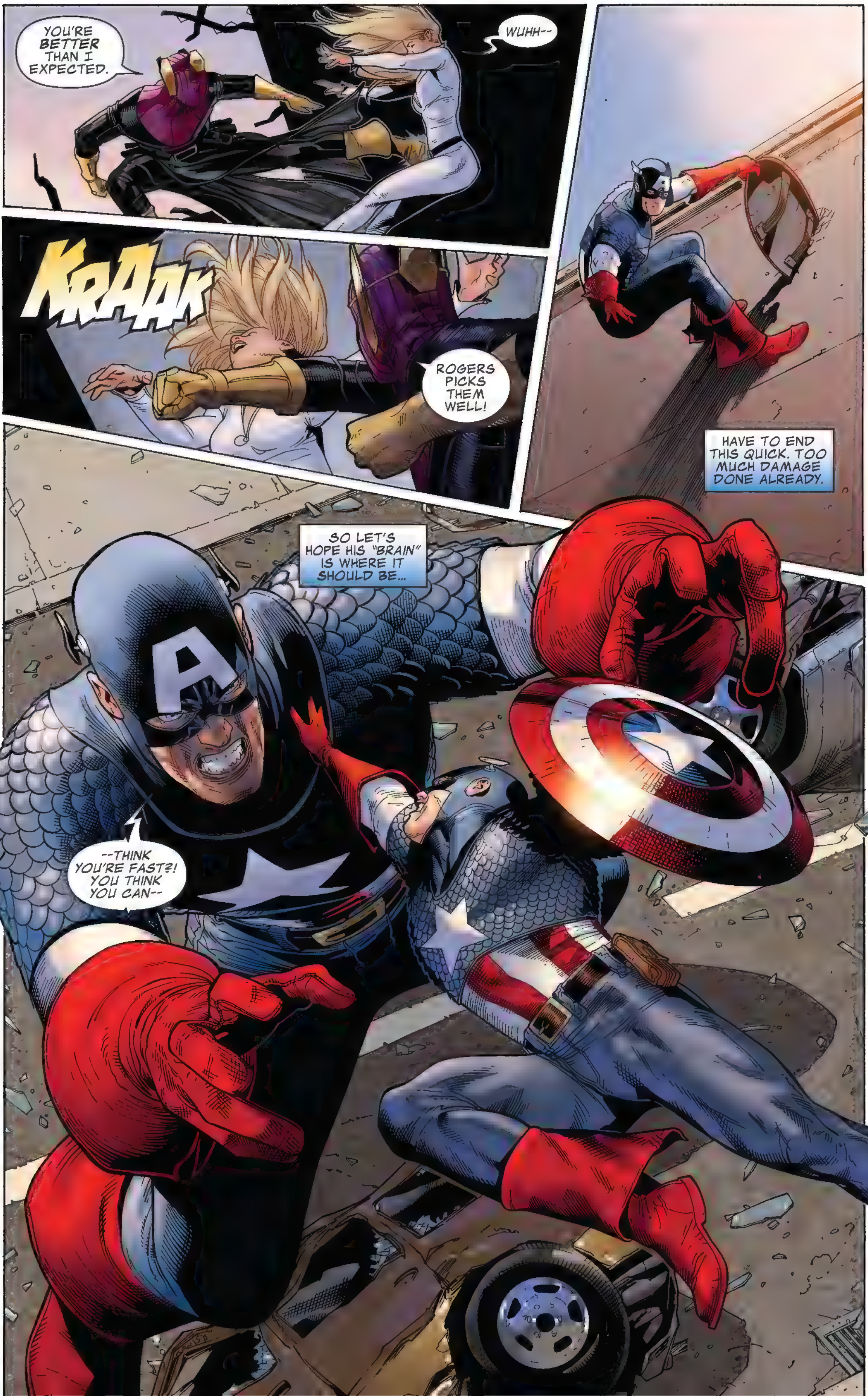

STEVE!
CATCH!
CHKK
CRAP...

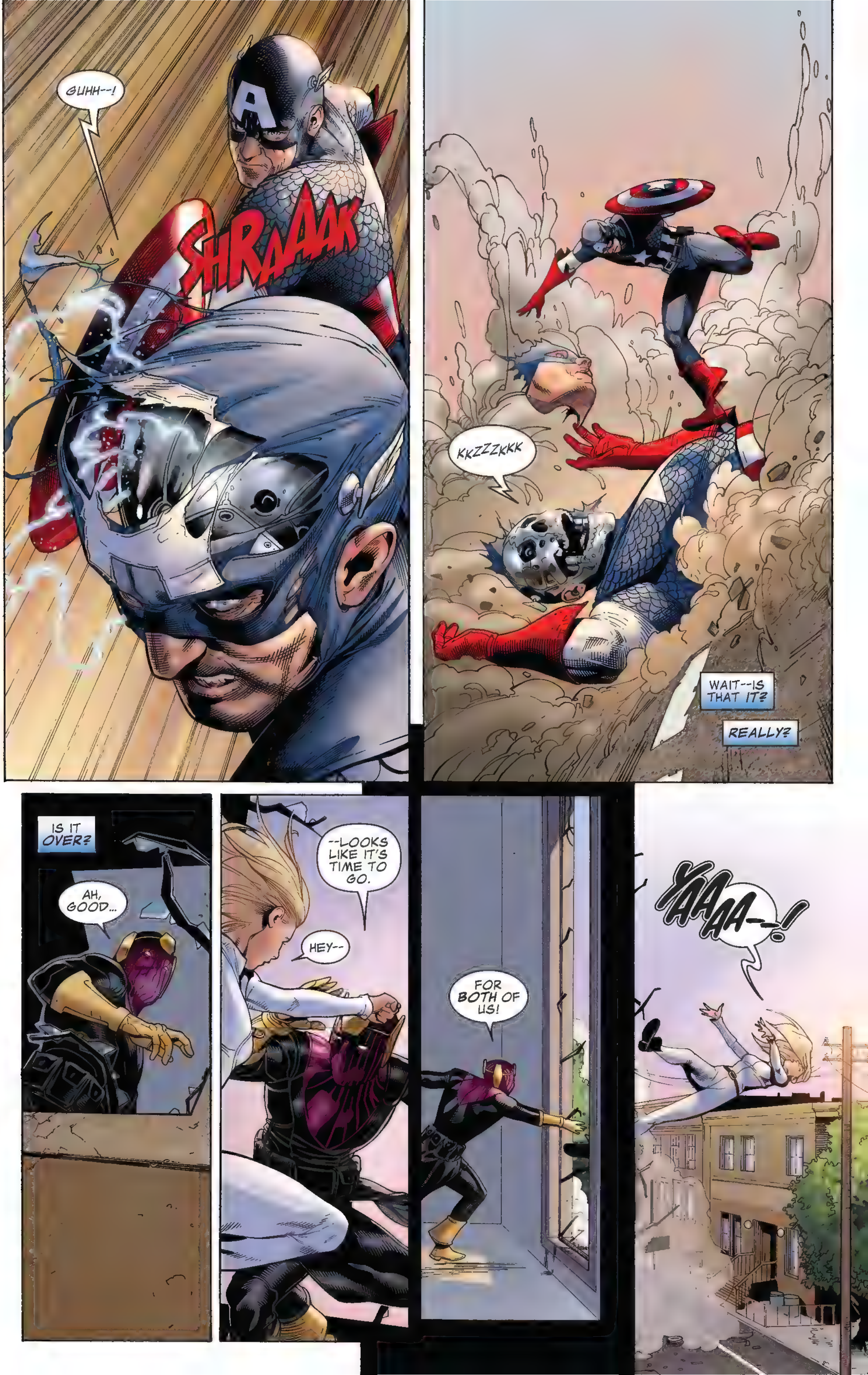

SO MUCH FOR THE CAVALRY.
THIS IS AGENT 13, GET ME NICK FURY-- NOW!
--DON'T THINK YOU'LL BE SLEEPIN' ANYTIME SOON, CHUCKLES...
AN' DON'T THINK WE DON'T HAVE OTHER WAYS OF EXTRACTING INTEL...LESS FUN WAYS.
...DO YOUR WORST... FASCIST...
57-C
WHAT'D HE JUST CALL YOU?
HANG ON-- SHARON'S ON THE LINE.
THIS IS FURY. GO.
WHAT? NO, IT CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE.
WE'RE ON OUR WAY.
...HEH HEH... BUT YOU'RE ALREADY TOO LATE...

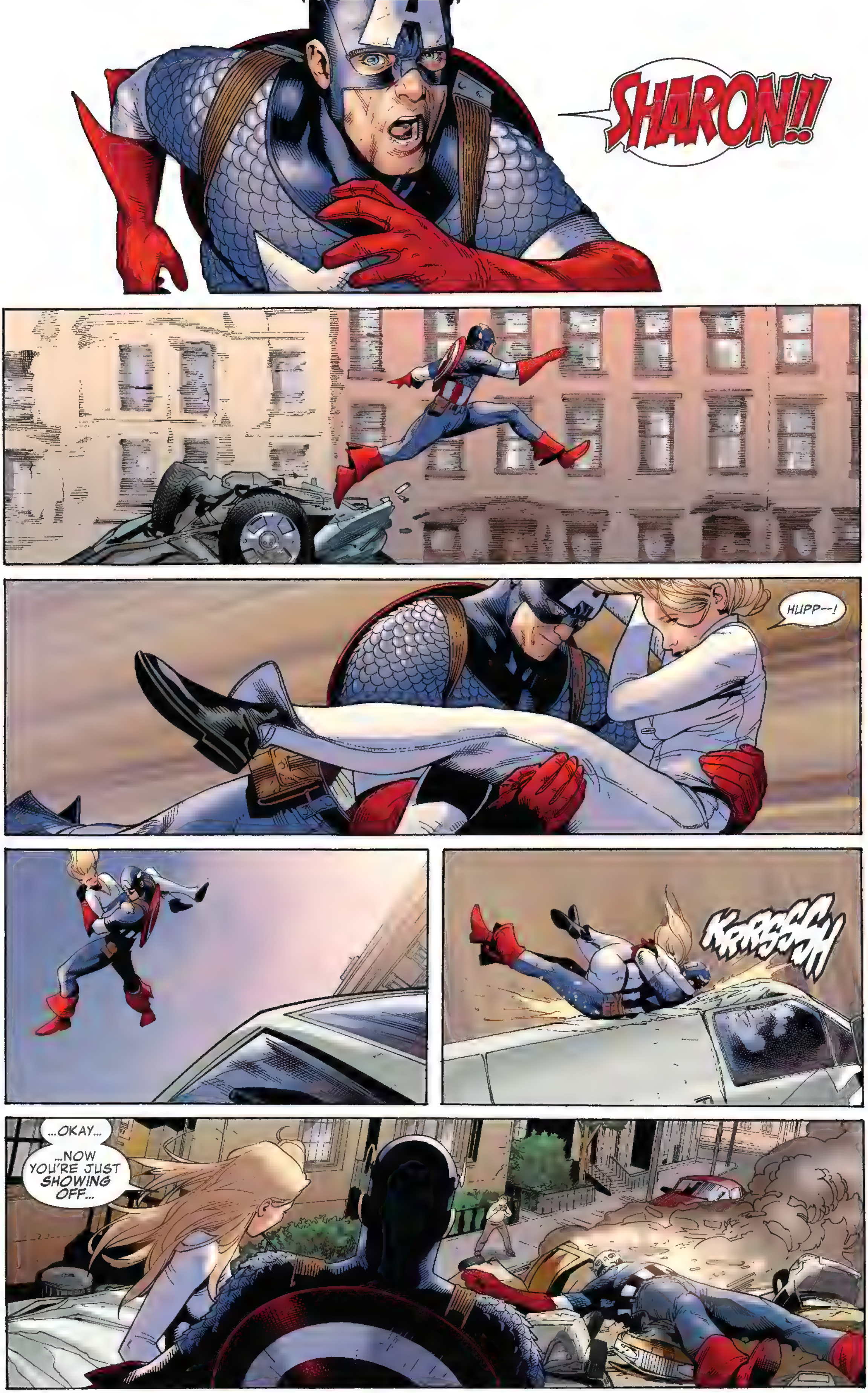

YEAH, YES... THE AVENGERS ARE MY NEXT--
NICK? NICK?
KA-WHAAK
SORRY, I HAD TO CUT YOUR SIGNAL...
...SO WE COULD HAVE SOME TIME ALONE.
WHDDD
UTT--
BIG MISTAKE, ZEMO.
I SPAR WITH CAPTAIN AMERICA AND VALKYRIE...

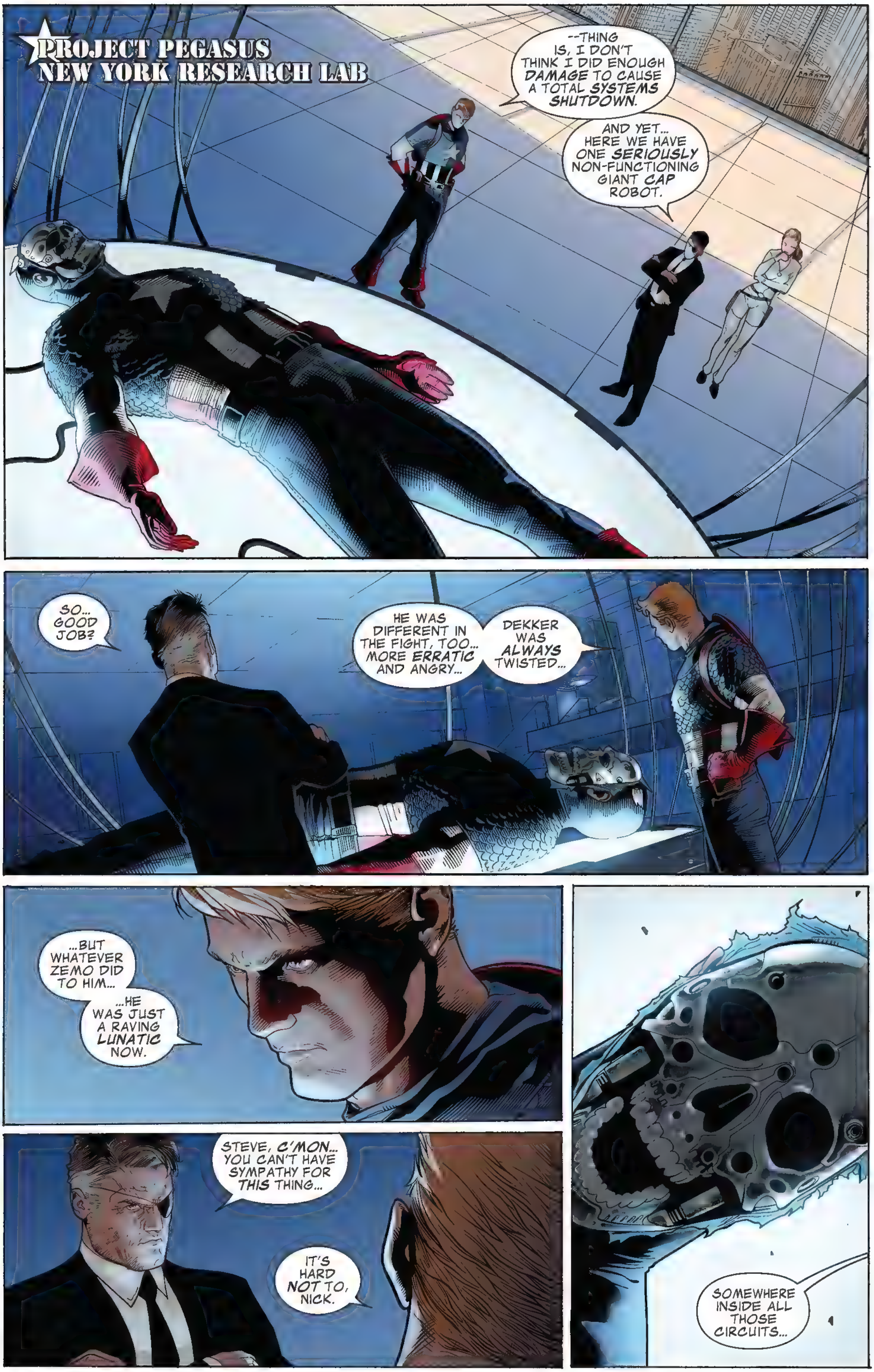

...YOU DON'T SCARE ME.
THEN IT'S A GOOD THING--
--I DON'T FIGHT FAIR.
GAHH--
KRZZAAAZ
I UPGRADED A WHILE BACK.
THE SUIT IS MADE OF NANOTECH FIBERS.
AND MINE WAS MADE BY TONY STARK, SO I DON'T ELECTROCUTE SO EASY.
WHAA--
KRAAK

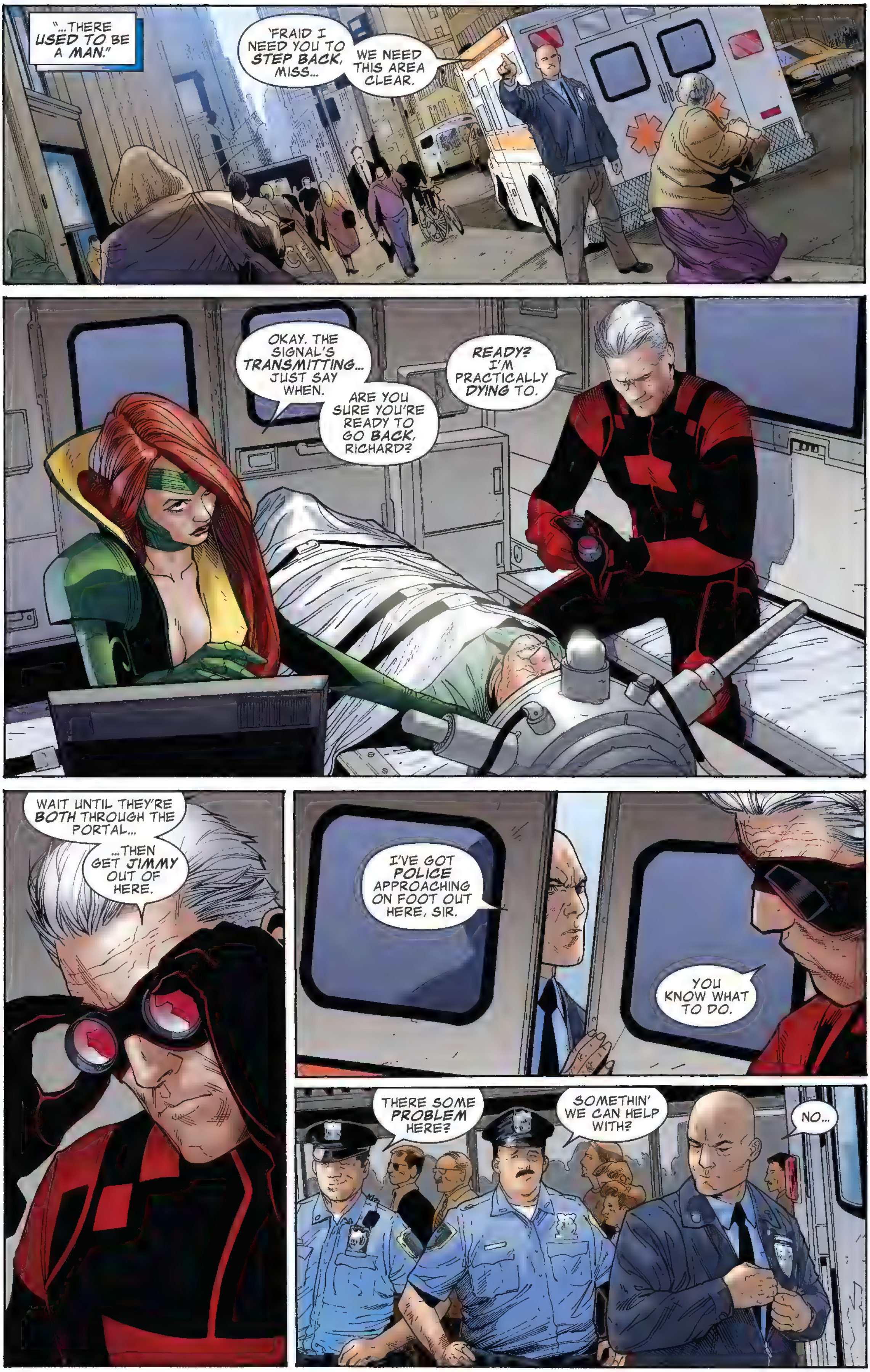

IT'S GOT TO END, ROGERS!
WE CAN'T BOTH BE YOU!
WHMMMP
DEKKER'S EVEN CRAZIER THAN BEFORE.
BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO FIGURE OUT WHY...
...OR TRY TO REACH HIM.
HE'S CLEARLY TOO FAR GONE TO HEAR REASON, ANYWAY.
HEY-- GET OVER--
HEY!

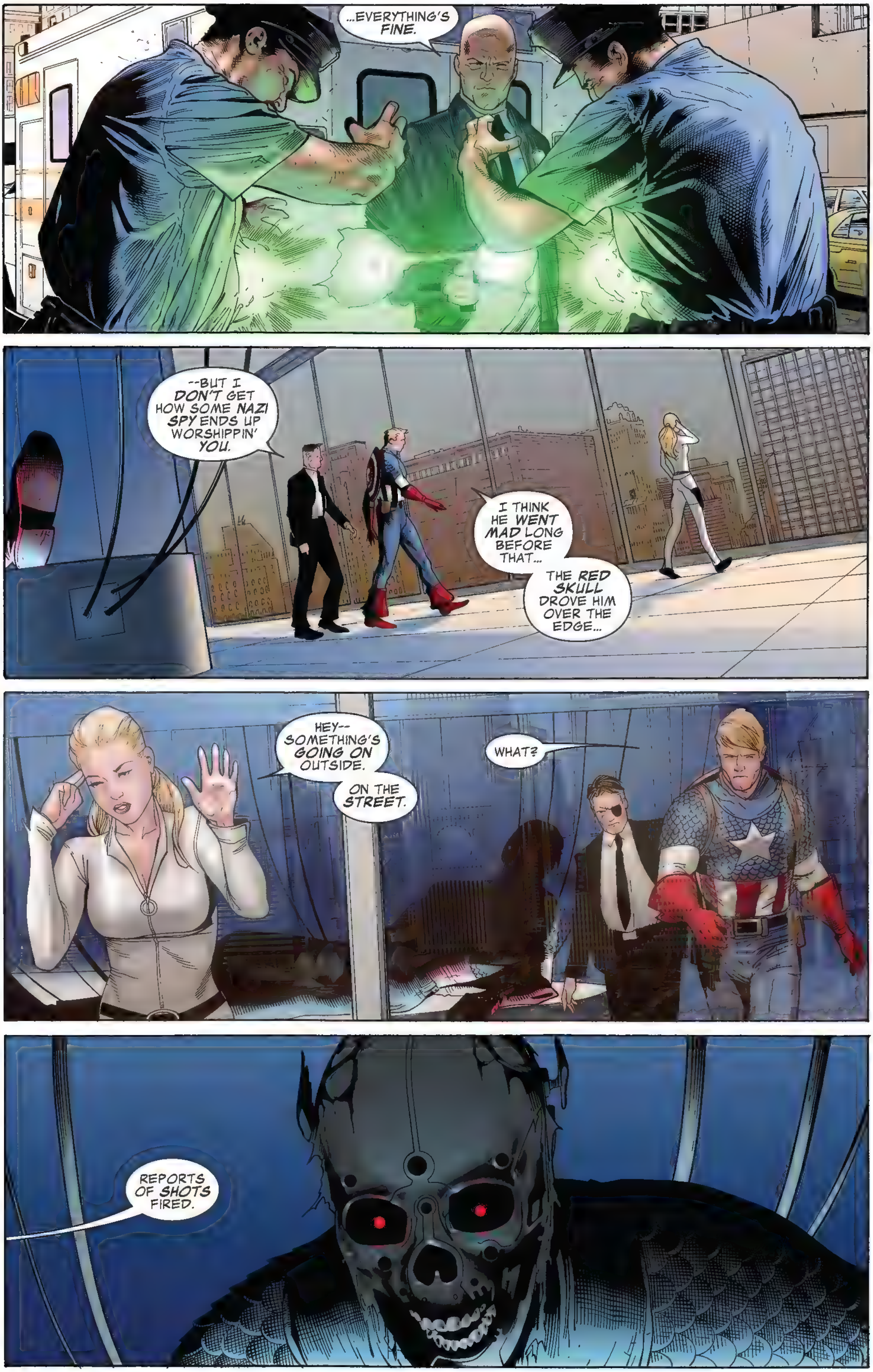

YOU'RE BETTER THAN I EXPECTED.
WUHH--
KRAAK
ROGERS PICKS THEM WELL!
HAVE TO END THIS QUICK. TOO MUCH DAMAGE DONE ALREADY.
SO LET'S HOPE HIS "BRAIN" IS WHERE IT SHOULD BE...
--THINK YOU'RE FAST?! YOU THINK YOU CAN--

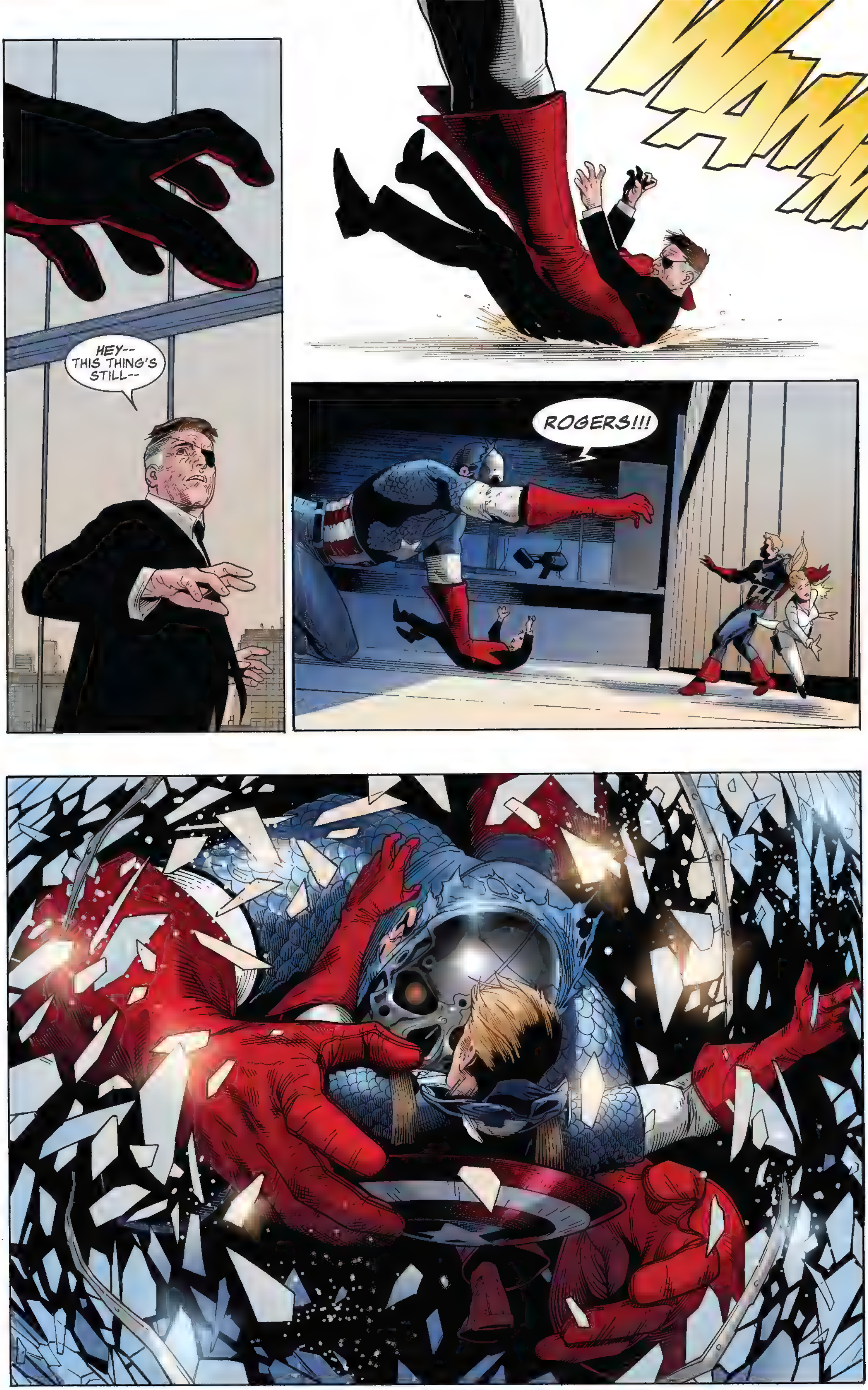

GUHH--!
SHRAAAK
KKZZZKKK
WAIT--IS THAT IT?
REALLY?
IS IT OVER?
AH, GOOD...
--LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME TO GO.
HEY--
FOR BOTH OF US!
YAAAA--!

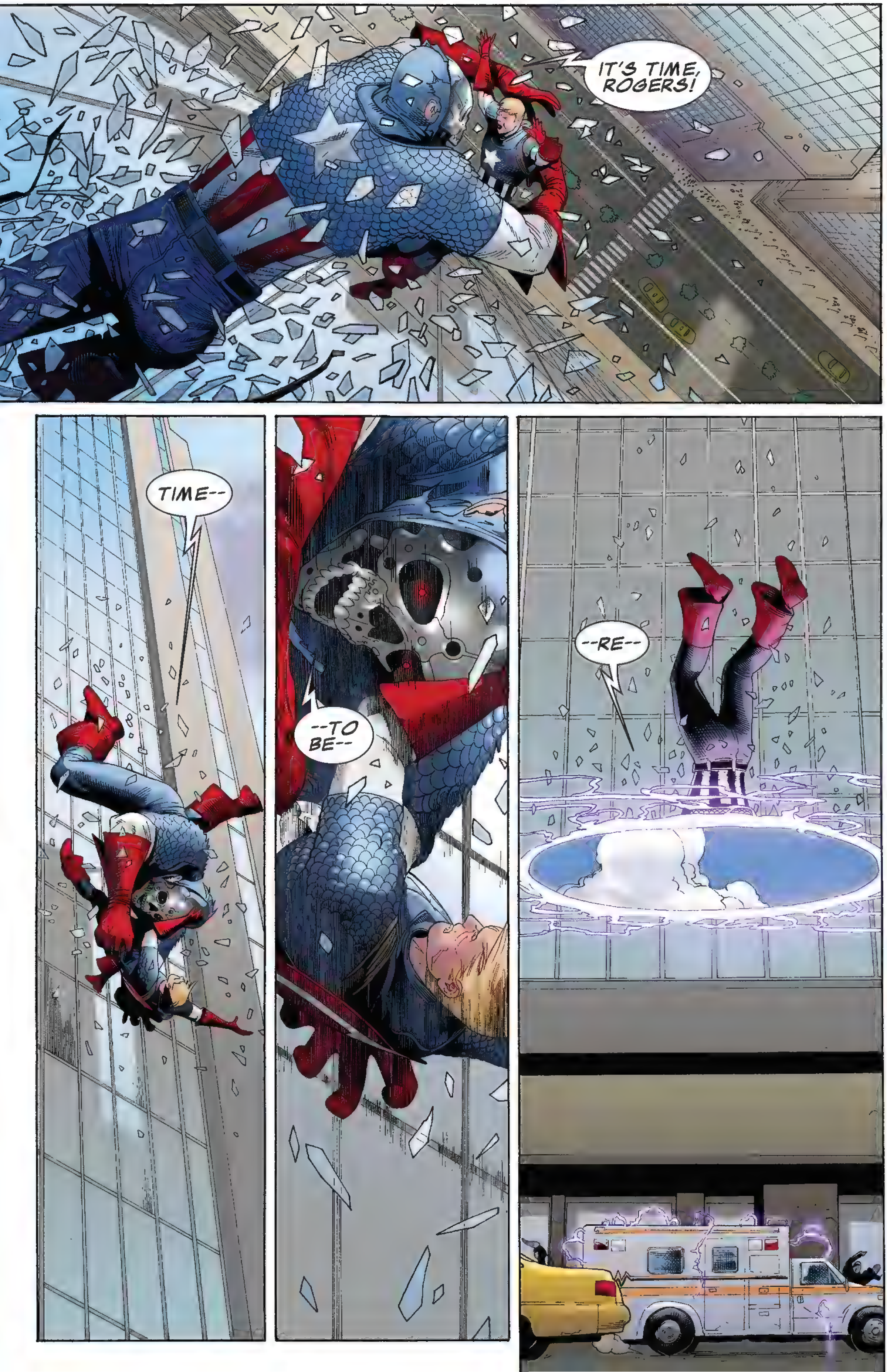

SHARON!!
HUPP--!
KRRSSH
...OKAY...
...NOW YOU'RE JUST SHOWING OFF...

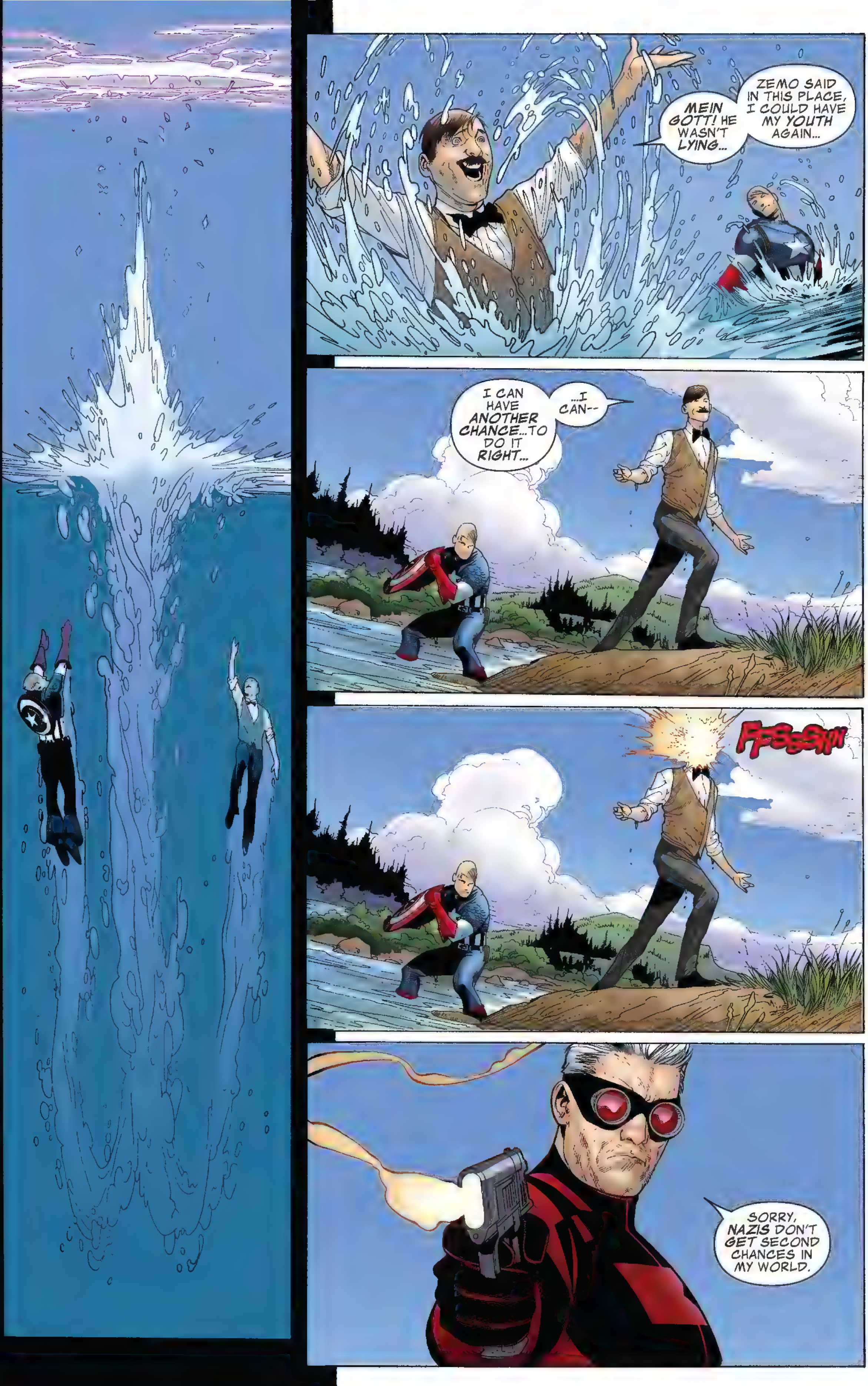

PROJECT PEGASUS NEW YORK RESEARCH LAB
--THING IS, I DON'T THINK I DID ENOUGH DAMAGE TO CAUSE A TOTAL SYSTEMS SHUTDOWN.
AND YET... HERE WE HAVE ONE SERIOUSLY NON-FUNCTIONING GIANT CAP ROBOT.
SO... GOOD JOB?
DEKKER WAS ALWAYS TWISTED...
HE WAS DIFFERENT IN THE FIGHT, TOO... MORE ERRATIC AND ANGRY...
...BUT WHATEVER ZEMO DID TO HIM...
...HE WAS JUST A RAVING LUNATIC NOW.
STEVE, C'MON... YOU CAN'T HAVE SYMPATHY FOR THIS THING...
IT'S HARD NOT TO, NICK.
SOMEWHERE INSIDE ALL THOSE CIRCUITS...

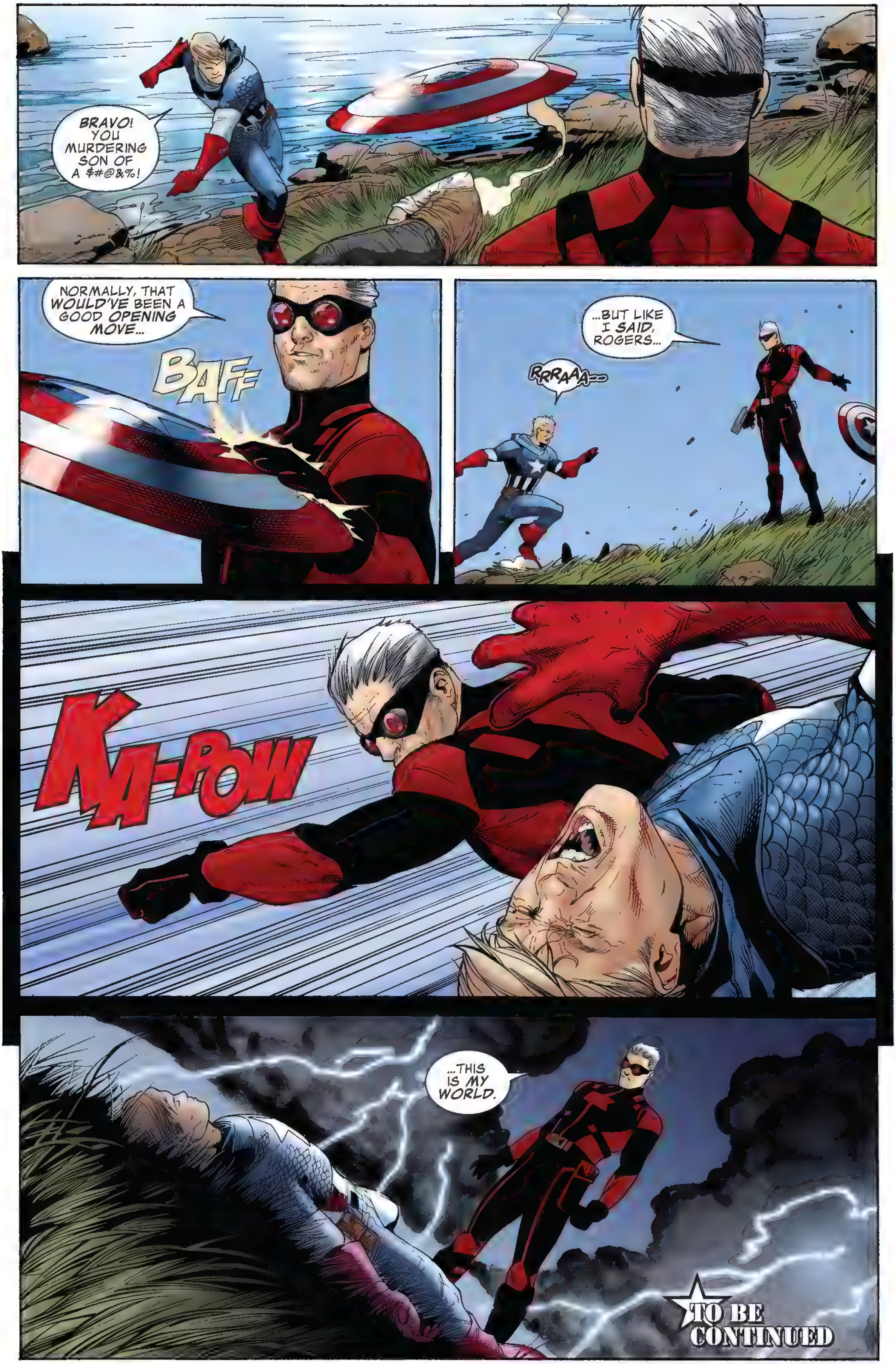

"...THERE USED TO BE A MAN."
'FRAID I NEED YOU TO STEP BACK, MISS...
WE NEED THIS AREA CLEAR.
OKAY. THE SIGNAL'S TRANSMITTING... JUST SAY WHEN.
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE READY TO GO BACK, RICHARD?
READY? I'M PRACTICALLY DYING TO.
WAIT UNTIL THEY'RE BOTH THROUGH THE PORTAL...
...THEN GET JIMMY OUT OF HERE.
I'VE GOT POLICE APPROACHING ON FOOT OUT HERE, SIR.
YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO.
THERE SOME PROBLEM HERE?
SOMETHIN' WE CAN HELP WITH?
NO...


...EVERYTHING'S FINE.
--BUT I DON'T GET HOW SOME NAZI SPY ENDS UP WORSHIPPIN' YOU.
I THINK HE WENT MAD LONG BEFORE THAT...
THE RED SKULL DROVE HIM OVER THE EDGE...
HEY-- SOMETHING'S GOING ON OUTSIDE.
ON THE STREET.
WHAT?
REPORTS OF SHOTS FIRED.


HEY-- THIS THING'S STILL--
WAMM
ROGERS!!!


IT'S TIME, ROGERS!
TIME--
--TO BE--
--RE--


ZEMO SAID IN THIS PLACE, I COULD HAVE MY *YOUTH* AGAIN...
MEIN GOTT! HE WASN'T *LYING*...
I CAN HAVE *ANOTHER CHANCE*...TO DO IT *RIGHT*...
...I CAN--
FFSSSH!!
SORRY, *NAZIS* DON'T *GET* SECOND CHANCES IN MY WORLD.


BRAVO! YOU MURDERING SON OF A $#@&%!
NORMALLY, THAT WOULD'VE BEEN A GOOD OPENING MOVE...
BAFF
...BUT LIKE I SAID, ROGERS...
RRRAAA--
KA-POW
...THIS IS MY WORLD.
TO BE CONTINUED

MARVEL

4

BRUBAKER
McNIVEN
LEISTEN
PONSOR

CAPTAIN AMERICA®

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DURING THE DARK DAYS OF THE EARLY 1940S, A COVERT MILITARY EXPERIMENT TURNED STEVE ROGERS INTO AMERICA'S FIRST SUPER-SOLDIER, CAPTAIN AMERICA. THROUGHOUT THE WAR, CAP AND HIS PARTNER BUCKY FOUGHT ALONGSIDE OUR INFANTRY AND WITH A GROUP OF HEROES KNOWN AS THE INVADERS. IN THE CLOSING MONTHS OF WWII, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WERE BOTH PRESUMED DEAD IN AN EXPLOSION OVER THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

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CAPTAIN AMERICA

AFTER BARELY ESCAPING AN AMBUSH SET BY ONE CODENAME BRAVO, AN ALLIED OPERATIVE NOT SEEN SINCE 1944, STEVE ROGERS, SHARON CARTER, NICK FURY AND DUM DUM DUGAN WERE LED TO INQUIRE AFTER THE NOW ELDERLY JIMMY JANKOVICZ, AKA JIMMY JUPITER. IN HIS YOUTH, JUPITER USED HIS ABILITY TO ENTER AN ALTERNATE REALITY KNOWN AS THE LAND OF NOWHERE TO HELP THE ALLIED CAUSE IN THE WAR. WHEN JIMMY WAS INJURED IN HIS FIRST MISSION, BRAVO AND A NUMBER OF ENEMY AGENTS WERE STRANDED IN THE DREAM WORLD. NOW CATATONIC, JANKOVICZ WAS KIDNAPPED BY HYDRA AGENTS IN HIGH-TECH SUITS ON THE ORDERS OF A NEW QUEEN HYDRA...WHO SEEMED TO BE IN LEAGUE WITH BRAVO AND BARON ZEMO. WHILE FIGHTING THE GIANT AMERIDROID, A ROBOT POWERED BY THE TRAPPED MIND OF THE NAZI SCIENTIST LYLE DEKKER, ROGERS WAS KNOCKED THROUGH A PORTAL INTO THE LAND OF NOWHERE. JUST AS THE DREAM WORLD GAVE DEKKER BACK HIS HUMAN FORM, BRAVO ARRIVED AND SHOT THE SCIENTIST DEAD WELCOMING CAPTAIN AMERICA TO PARADISE...

AMERICAN DREAMERS PART 4

ED BRUBAKER WRITER **STEVE McNIVEN** PENCILER
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CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED BY **JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY**

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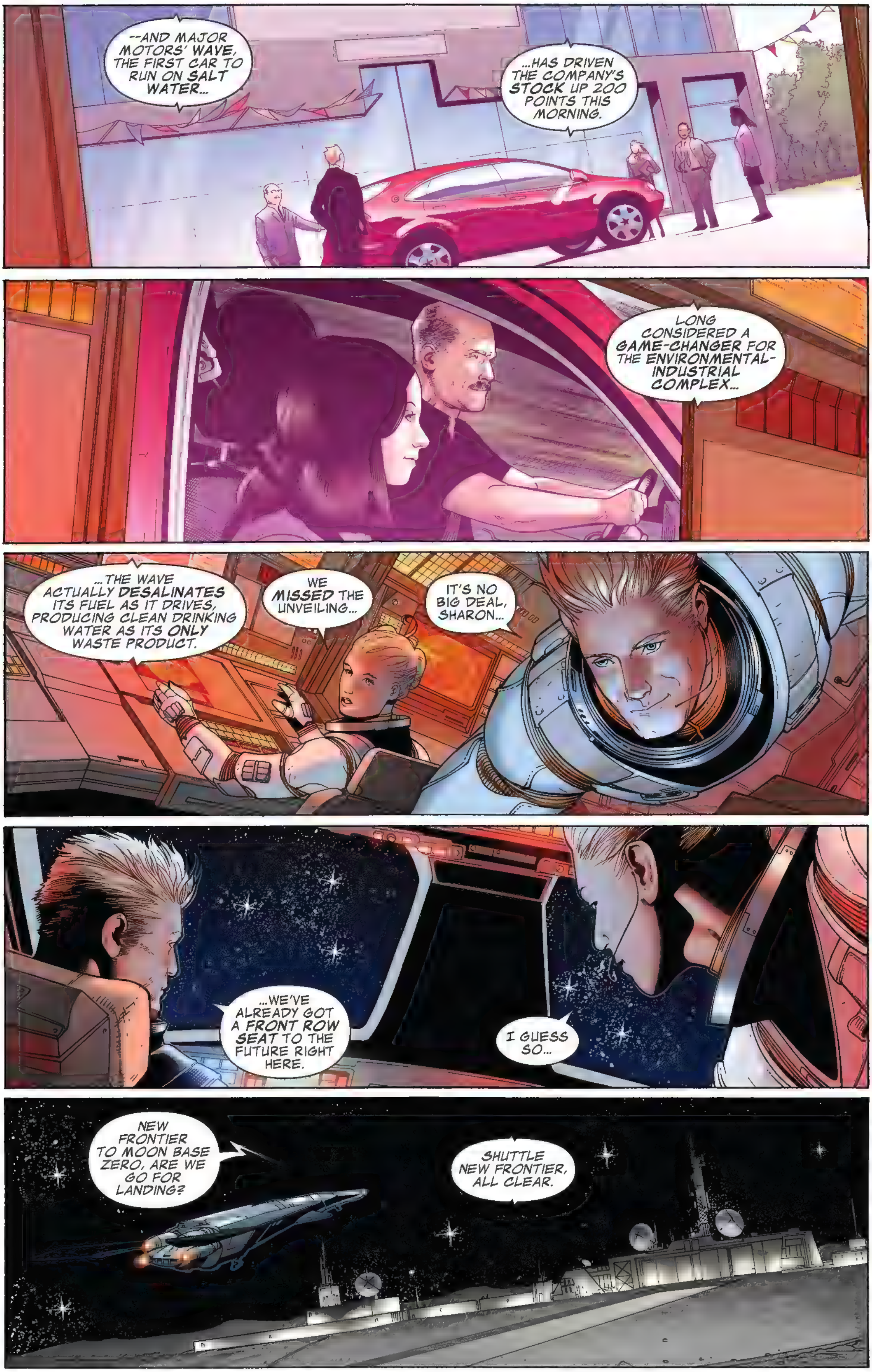
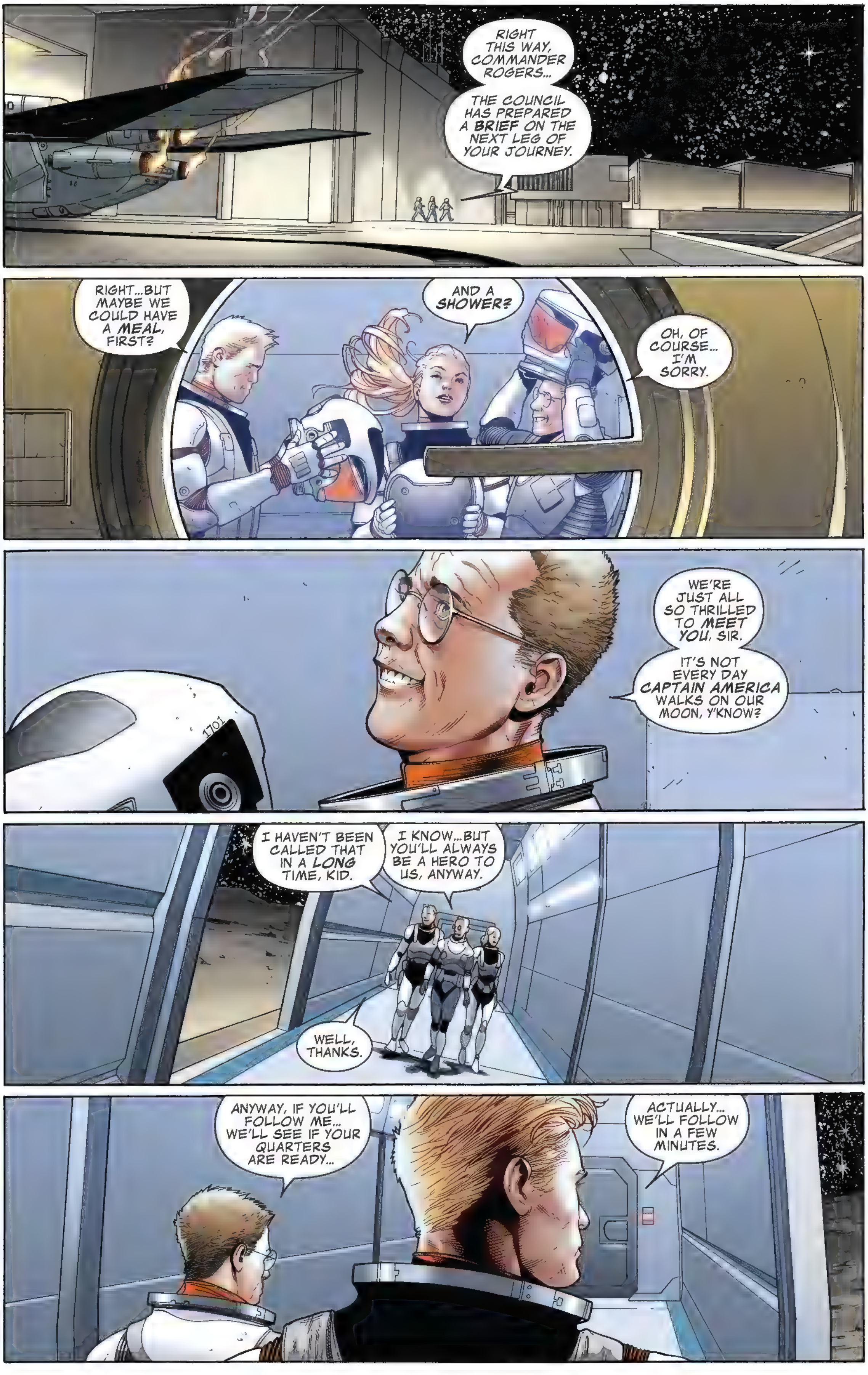
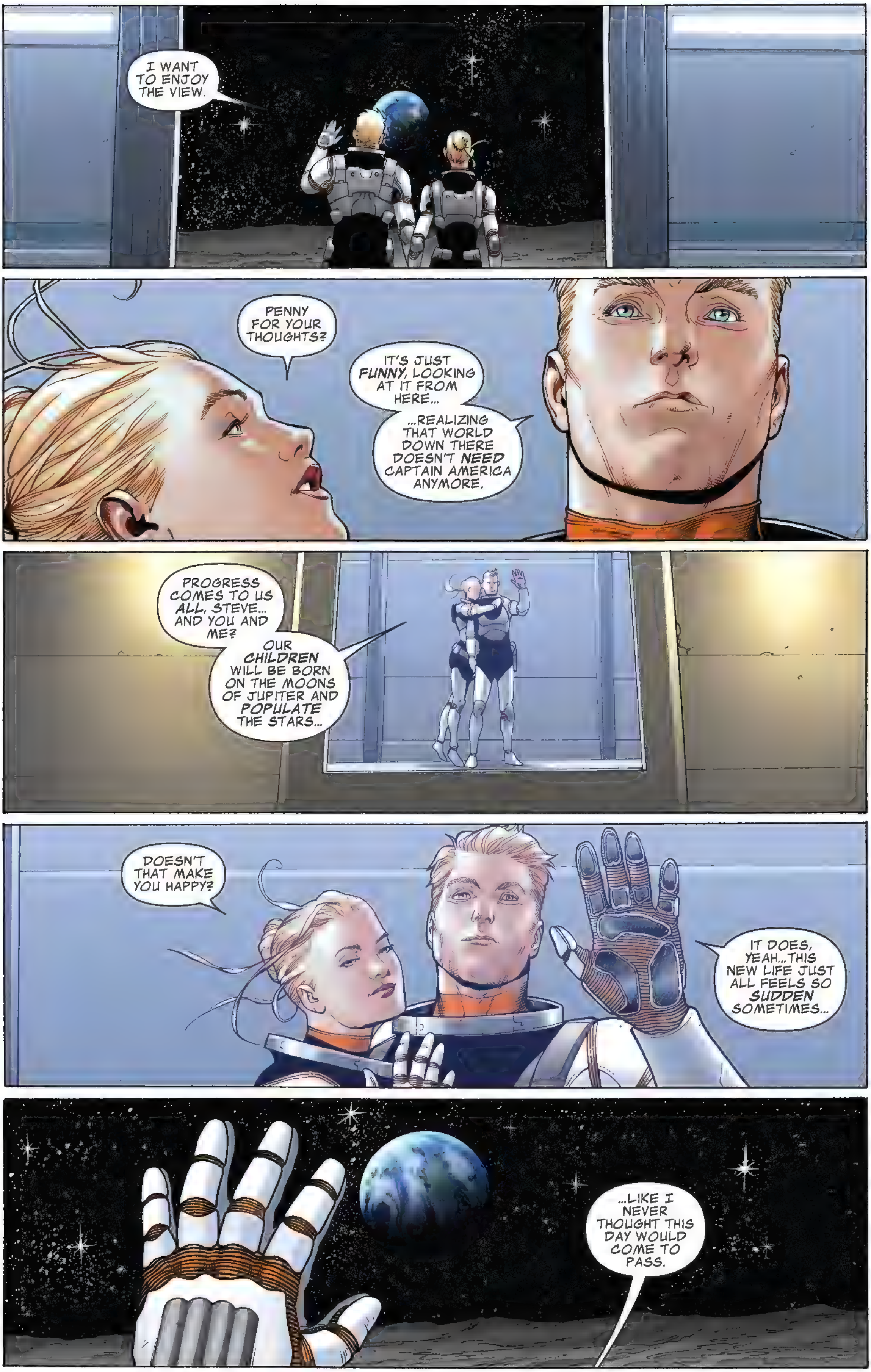
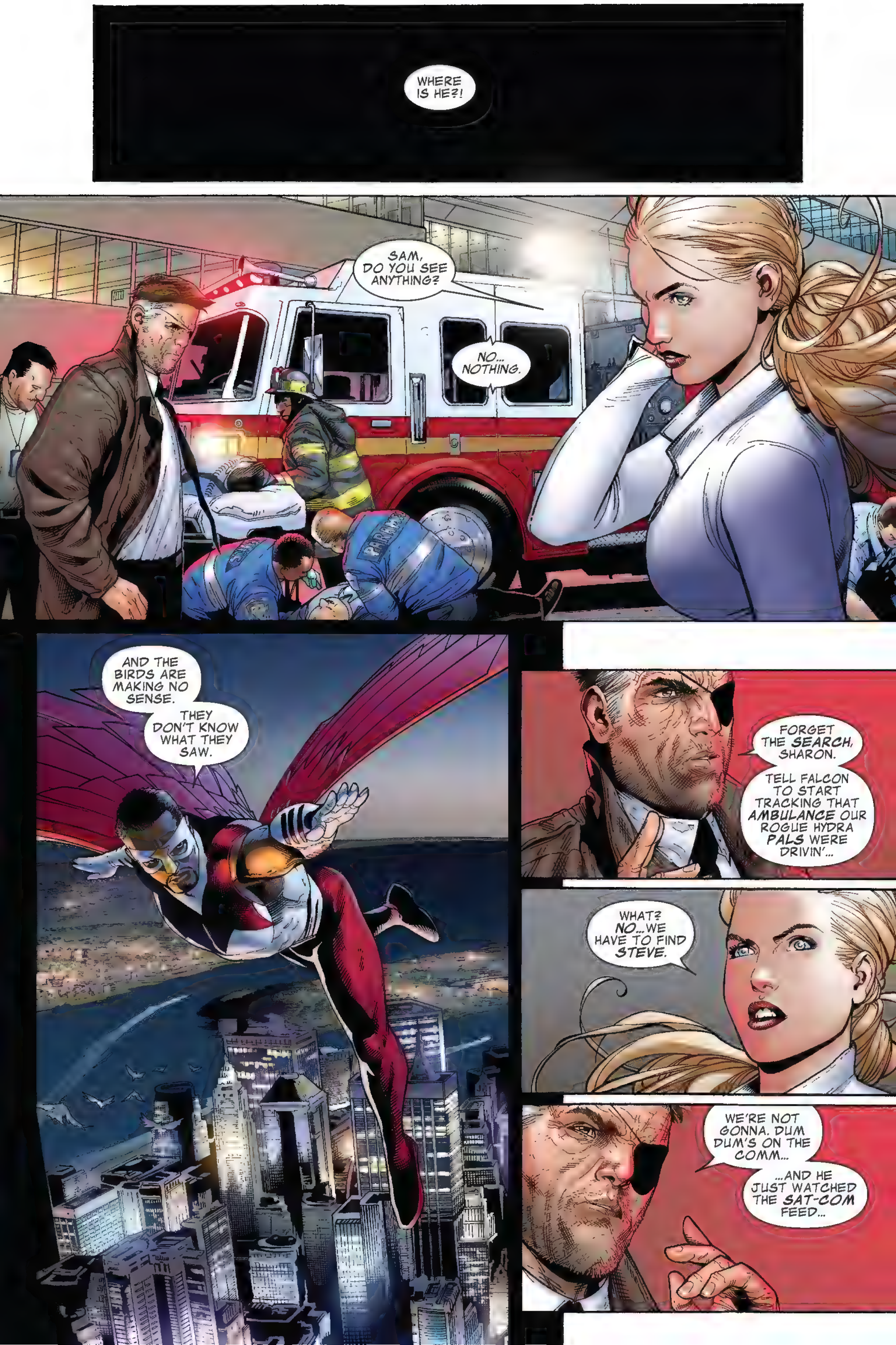
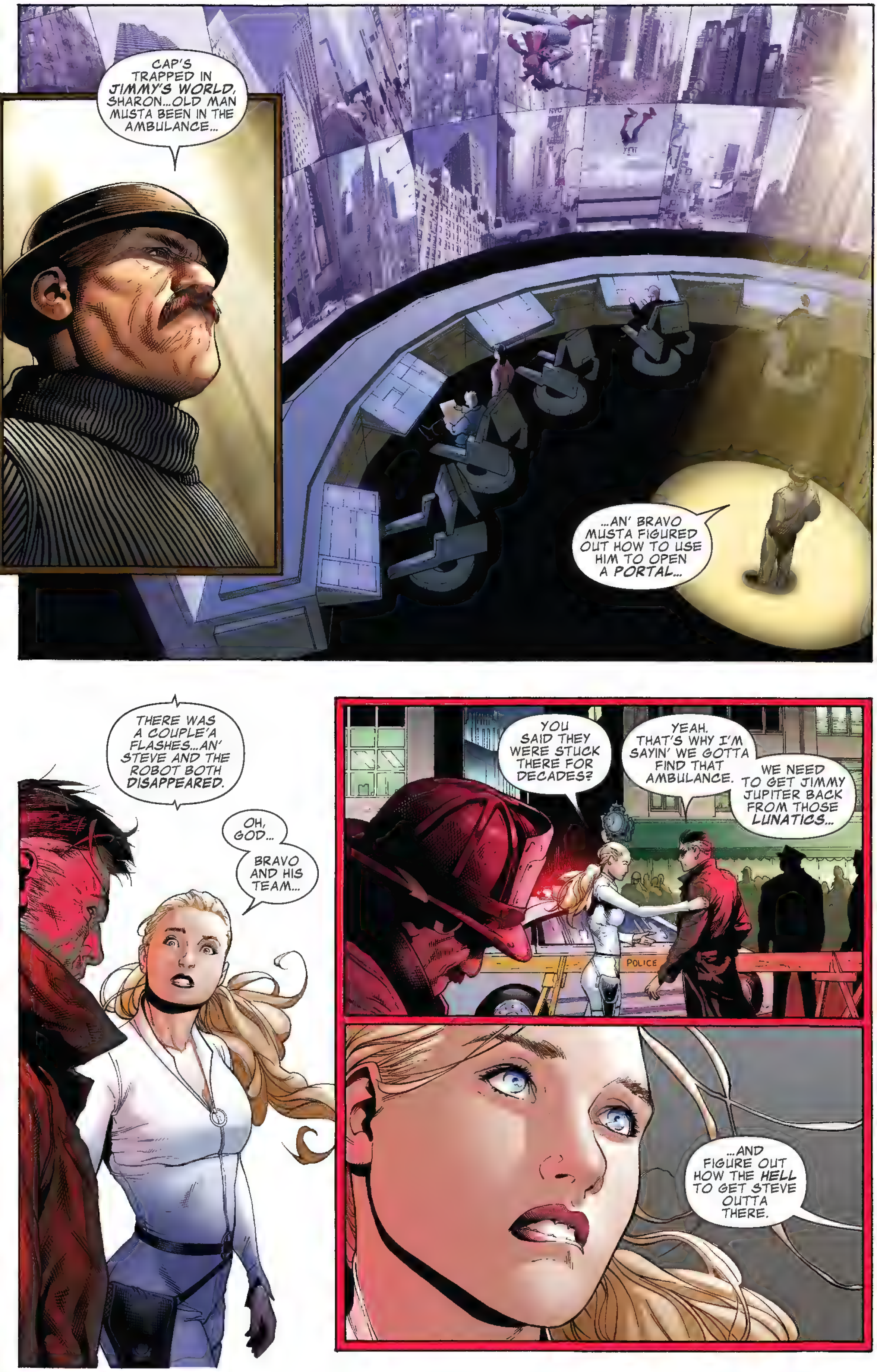
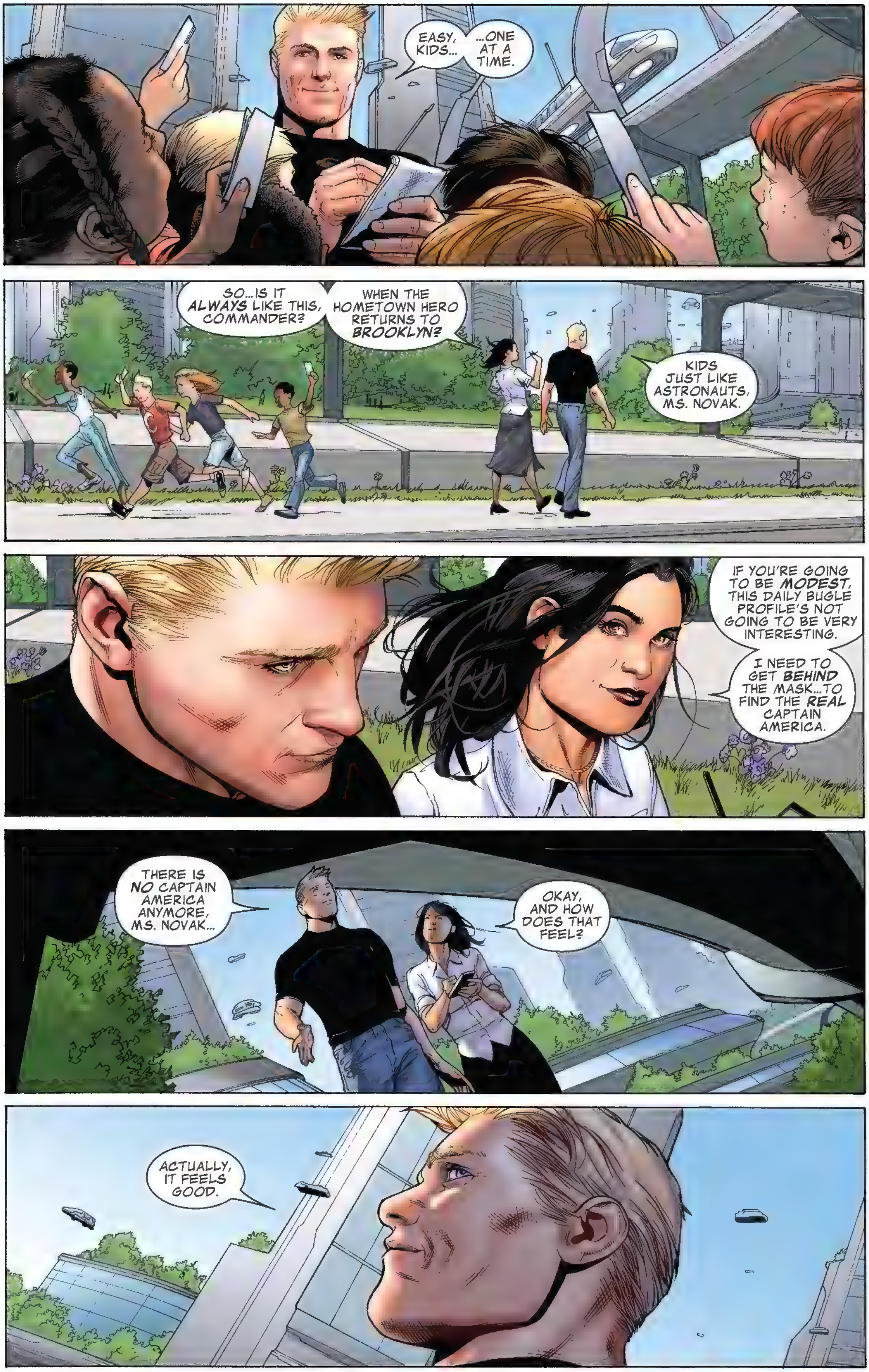

--AND MAJOR MOTORS' WAVE, THE FIRST CAR TO RUN ON SALT WATER...
...HAS DRIVEN THE COMPANY'S STOCK UP 200 POINTS THIS MORNING.
LONG CONSIDERED A GAME-CHANGER FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX...
...THE WAVE ACTUALLY DESALINATES ITS FUEL AS IT DRIVES, PRODUCING CLEAN DRINKING WATER AS ITS ONLY WASTE PRODUCT.
WE MISSED THE UNVEILING...
IT'S NO BIG DEAL, SHARON...
...WE'VE ALREADY GOT A FRONT ROW SEAT TO THE FUTURE RIGHT HERE.
I GUESS SO...
NEW FRONTIER TO MOON BASE ZERO, ARE WE GO FOR LANDING?
SHUTTLE NEW FRONTIER, ALL CLEAR.

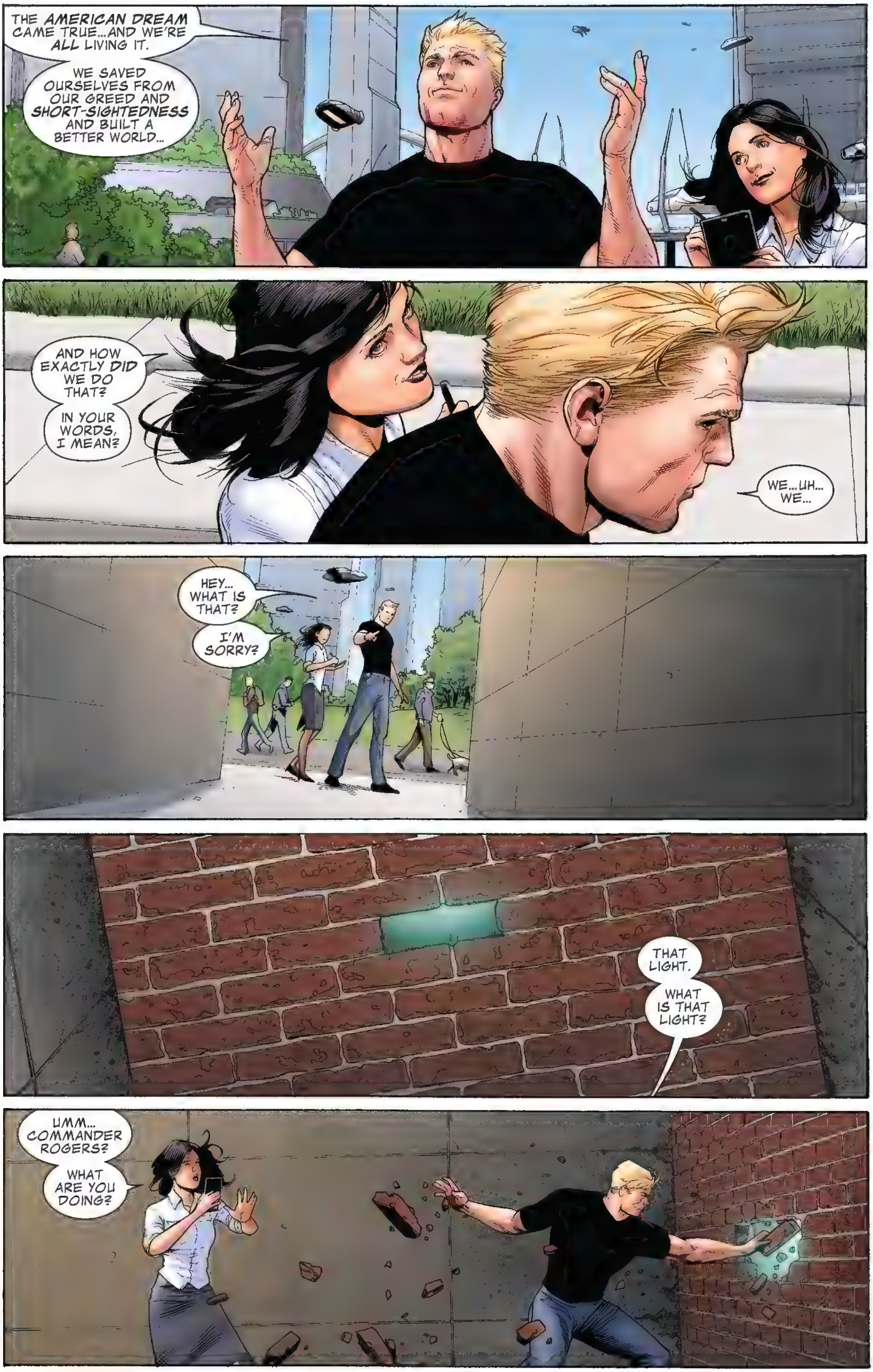

RIGHT THIS WAY, COMMANDER ROGERS...
THE COUNCIL HAS PREPARED A BRIEF ON THE NEXT LEG OF YOUR JOURNEY.
RIGHT...BUT MAYBE WE COULD HAVE A MEAL, FIRST?
AND A SHOWER?
OH, OF COURSE... I'M SORRY.
WE'RE JUST ALL SO THRILLED TO MEET YOU, SIR.
IT'S NOT EVERY DAY CAPTAIN AMERICA WALKS ON OUR MOON, Y'KNOW?
1701
I HAVEN'T BEEN CALLED THAT IN A LONG TIME, KID.
I KNOW...BUT YOU'LL ALWAYS BE A HERO TO US, ANYWAY.
WELL, THANKS.
ANYWAY, IF YOU'LL FOLLOW ME... WE'LL SEE IF YOUR QUARTERS ARE READY...
ACTUALLY... WE'LL FOLLOW IN A FEW MINUTES.

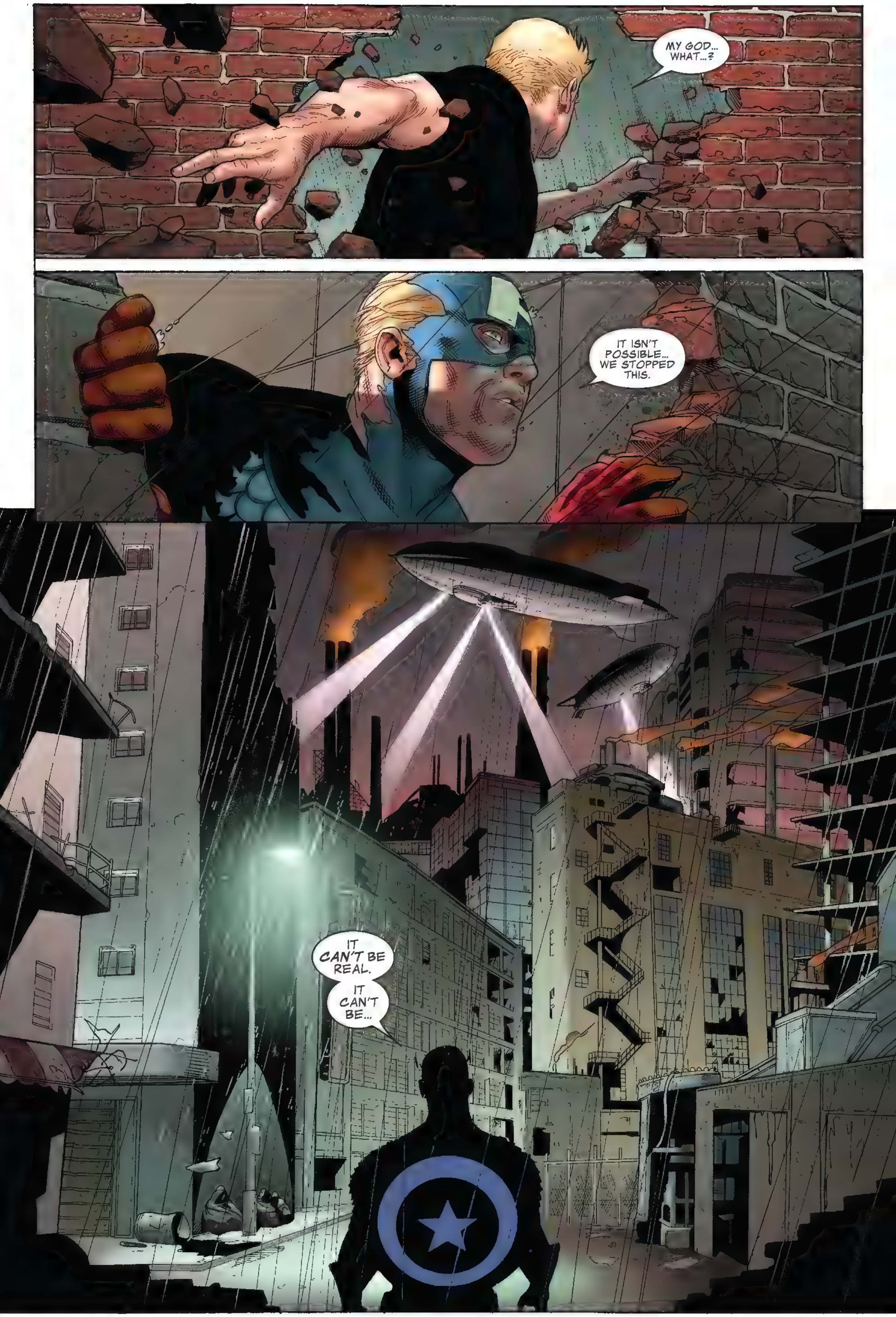

I WANT TO ENJOY THE VIEW.
PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS?
IT'S JUST FUNNY, LOOKING AT IT FROM HERE...
...REALIZING THAT WORLD DOWN THERE DOESN'T NEED CAPTAIN AMERICA ANYMORE.
PROGRESS COMES TO US ALL, STEVE... AND YOU AND ME?
OUR CHILDREN WILL BE BORN ON THE MOONS OF JUPITER AND POPULATE THE STARS...
DOESN'T THAT MAKE YOU HAPPY?
IT DOES, YEAH...THIS NEW LIFE JUST ALL FEELS SO SUDDEN SOMETIMES...
...LIKE I NEVER THOUGHT THIS DAY WOULD COME TO PASS.

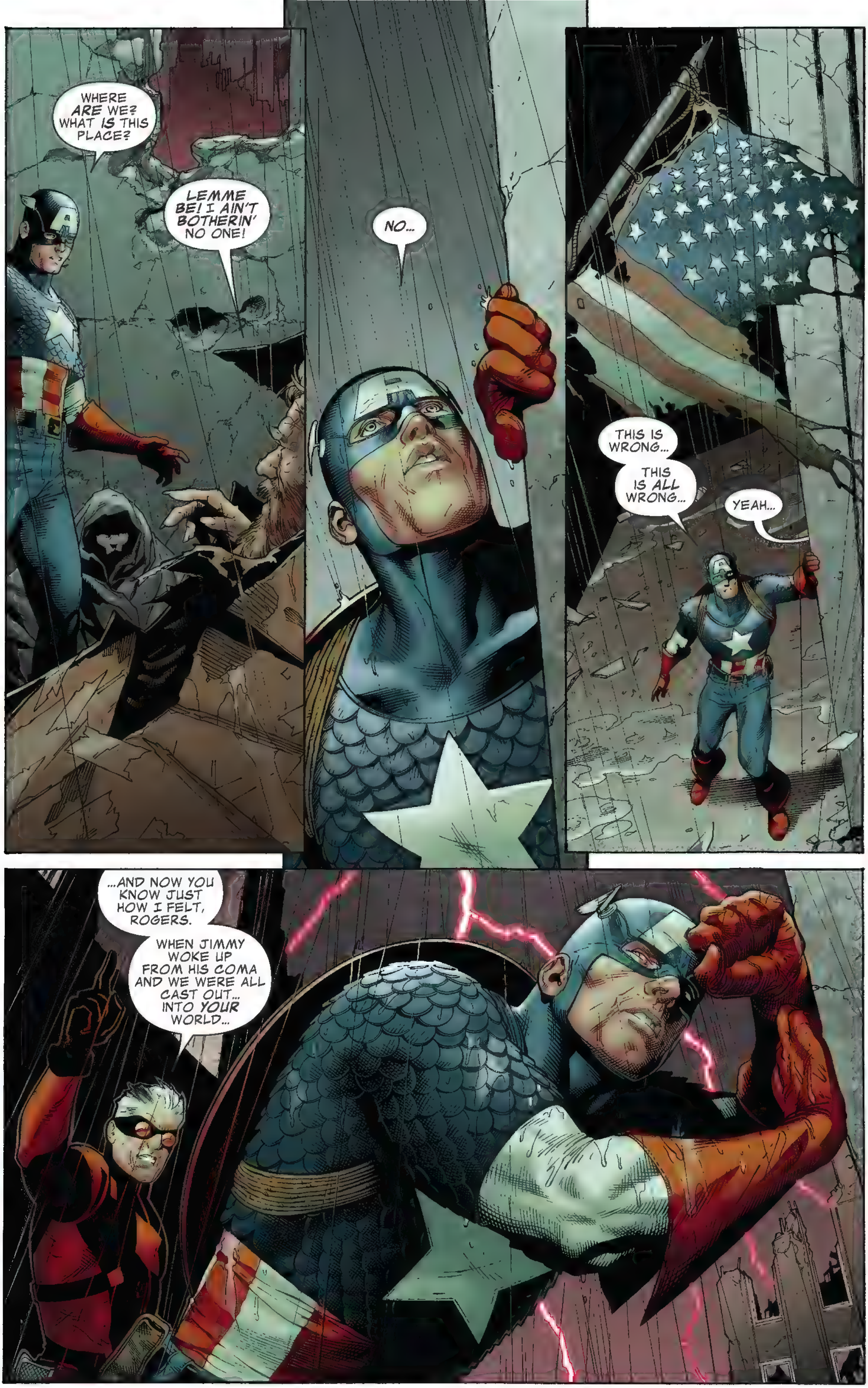

WHERE IS HE?!
SAM, DO YOU SEE ANYTHING?
NO... NOTHING.
AND THE BIRDS ARE MAKING NO SENSE.
THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY SAW.
FORGET THE ***SEARCH***, SHARON.
TELL FALCON TO START TRACKING THAT ***AMBULANCE*** OUR ROGUE HYDRA ***PALS*** WERE DRIVIN'...
WHAT? ***NO***...WE HAVE TO FIND ***STEVE***.
WE'RE NOT GONNA. DUM DUM'S ON THE COMM...
...AND HE JUST WATCHED THE ***SAT-COM*** FEED...

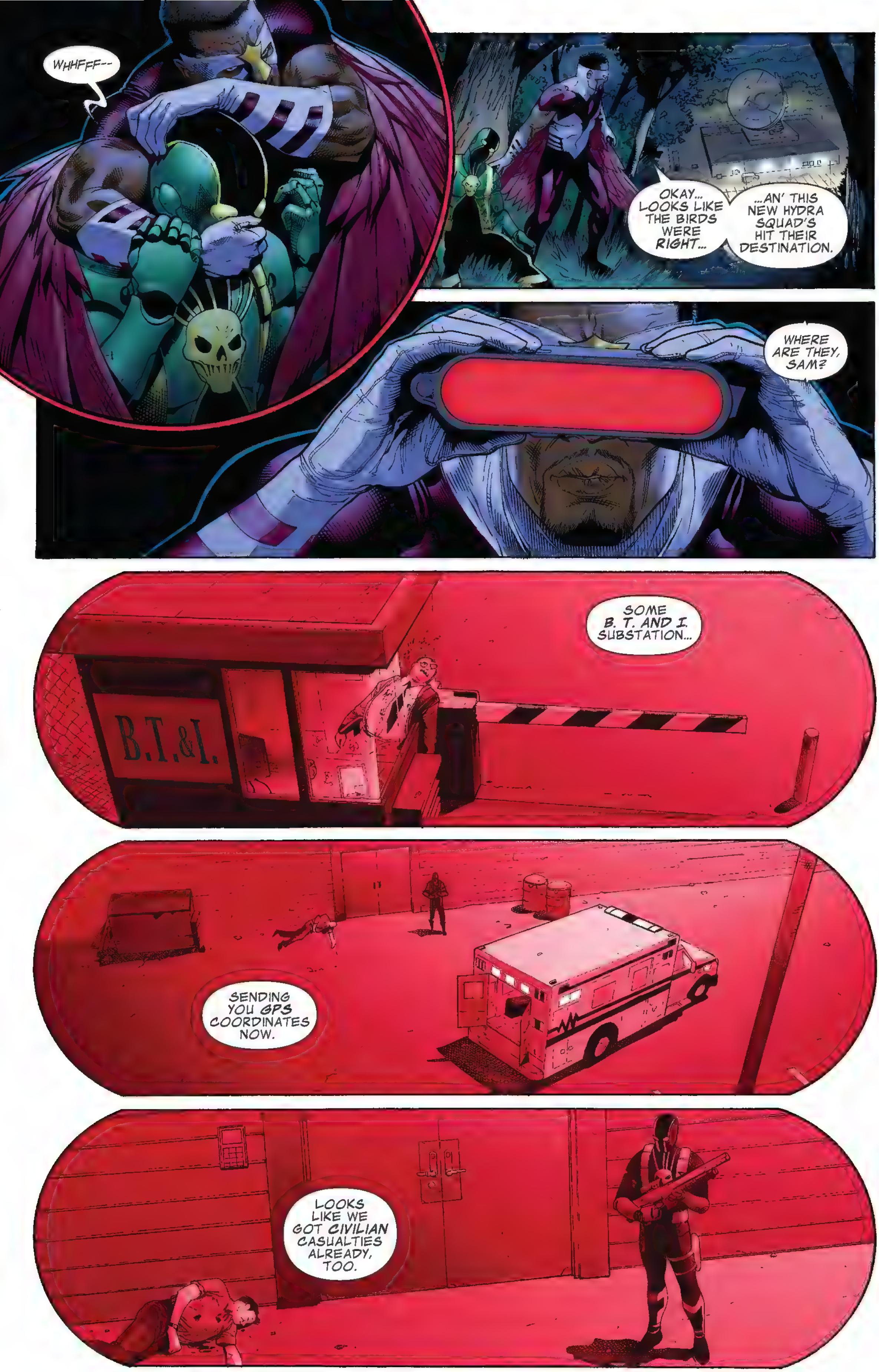

CAP'S TRAPPED IN *JIMMY'S WORLD,* SHARON...OLD MAN MUSTA BEEN IN THE AMBULANCE...
...AN' BRAVO MUSTA FIGURED OUT HOW TO USE HIM TO OPEN A *PORTAL...*
THERE WAS A COUPLE'A FLASHES...AN' *STEVE* AND THE *ROBOT* BOTH *DISAPPEARED.*
OH, GOD...
BRAVO AND HIS TEAM...
YOU SAID THEY WERE STUCK THERE FOR DECADES?
YEAH. THAT'S WHY I'M SAYIN' WE GOTTA FIND THAT AMBULANCE.
WE NEED TO GET JIMMY JUPITER BACK FROM THOSE *LUNATICS...*
POLICE
...AND FIGURE OUT HOW THE *HELL* TO GET *STEVE* OUTTA THERE.

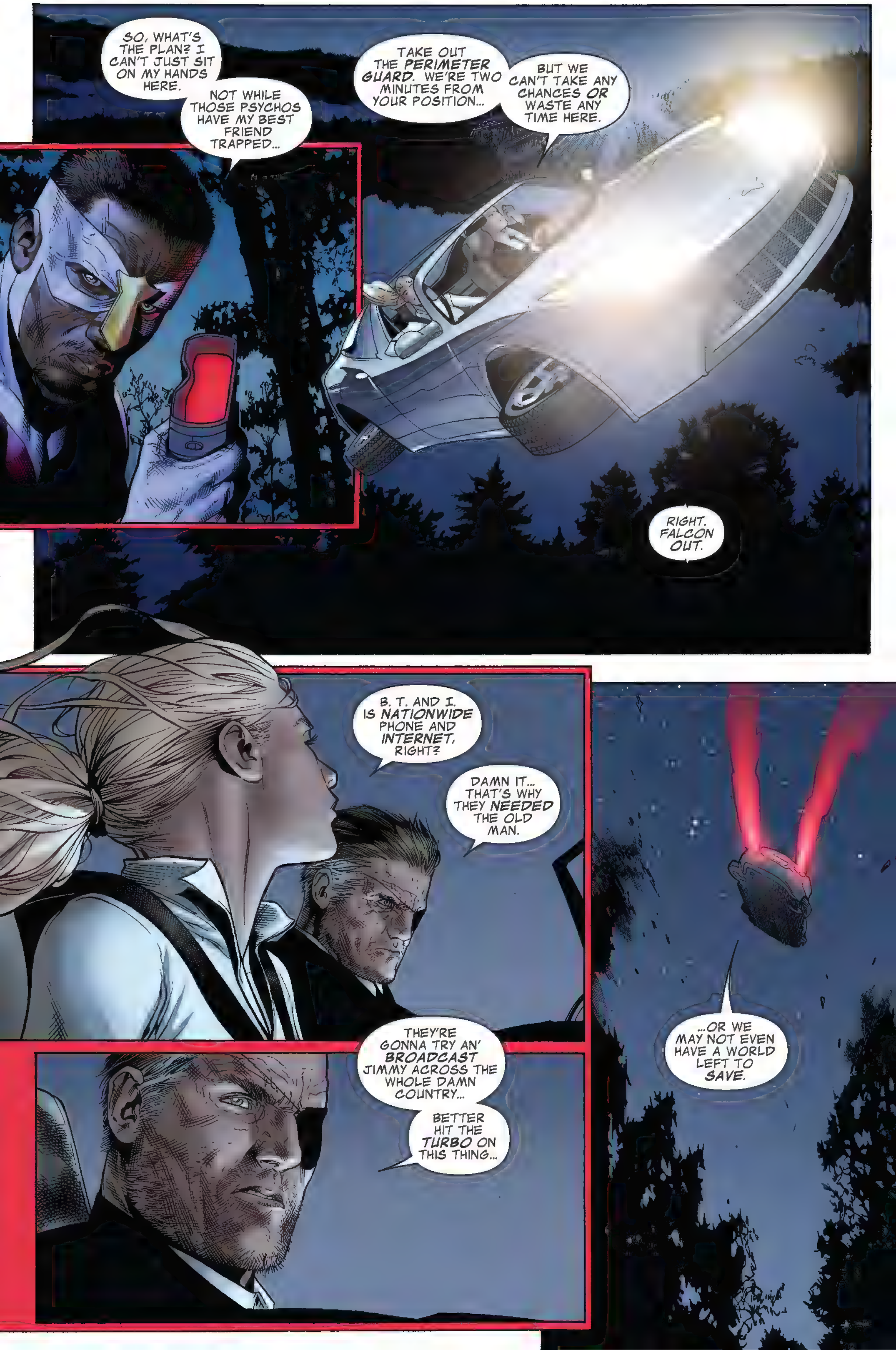

EASY, KIDS...
...ONE AT A TIME.
SO...IS IT ALWAYS LIKE THIS, COMMANDER?
WHEN THE HOMETOWN HERO RETURNS TO BROOKLYN?
KIDS JUST LIKE ASTRONAUTS, MS. NOVAK.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE MODEST, THIS DAILY BUGLE PROFILE'S NOT GOING TO BE VERY INTERESTING.
I NEED TO GET BEHIND THE MASK...TO FIND THE REAL CAPTAIN AMERICA.
THERE IS NO CAPTAIN AMERICA ANYMORE, MS. NOVAK...
OKAY, AND HOW DOES THAT FEEL?
ACTUALLY, IT FEELS GOOD.

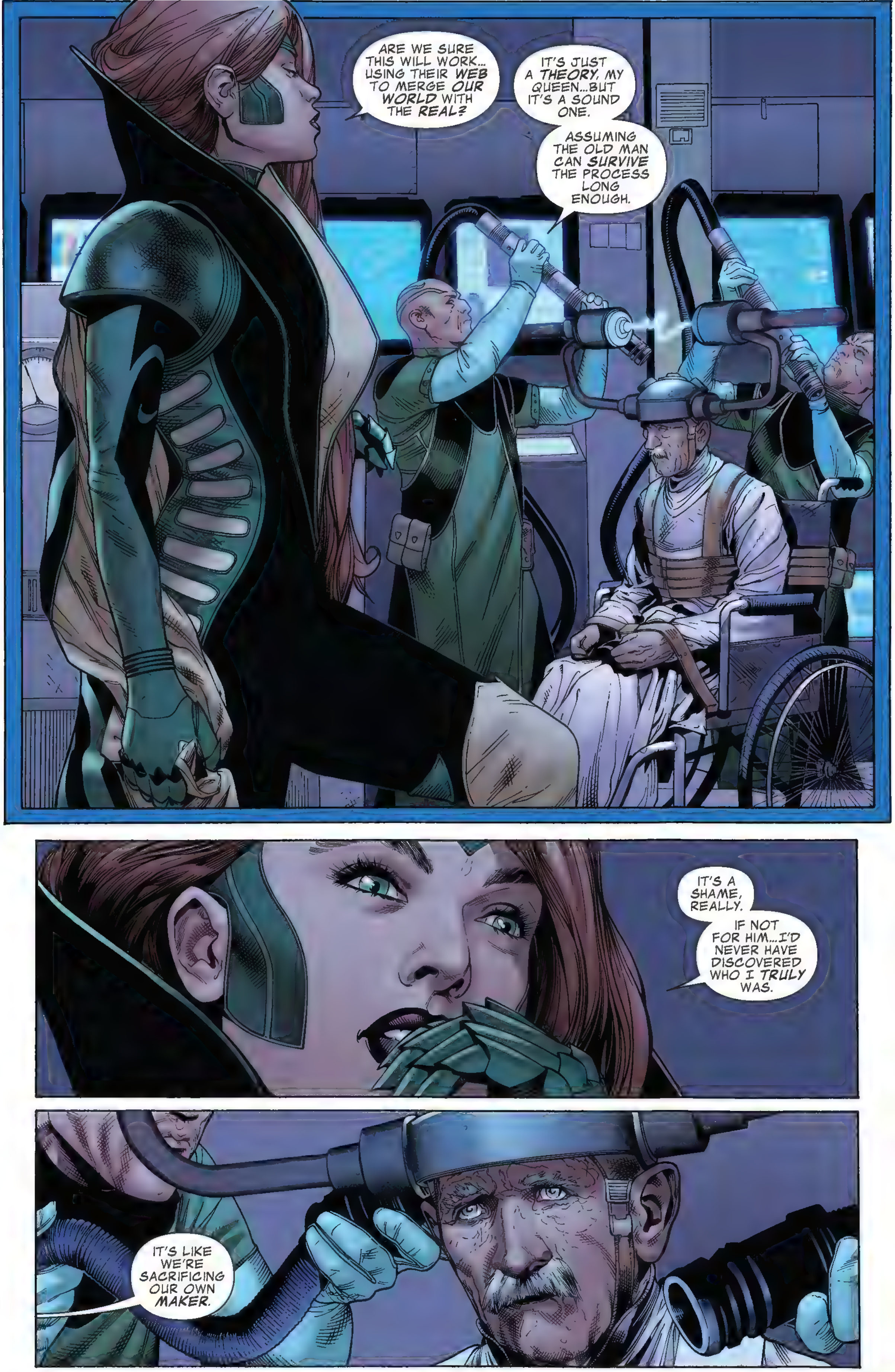

THE *AMERICAN DREAM* CAME TRUE...AND WE'RE *ALL* LIVING IT.
WE SAVED OURSELVES FROM OUR GREED AND *SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS* AND BUILT A BETTER WORLD...
AND HOW EXACTLY *DID* WE DO THAT?
IN YOUR WORDS, I MEAN?
WE...UH... WE...
HEY... WHAT IS THAT?
I'M SORRY?
THAT LIGHT.
WHAT IS THAT LIGHT?
UMM... COMMANDER ROGERS?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

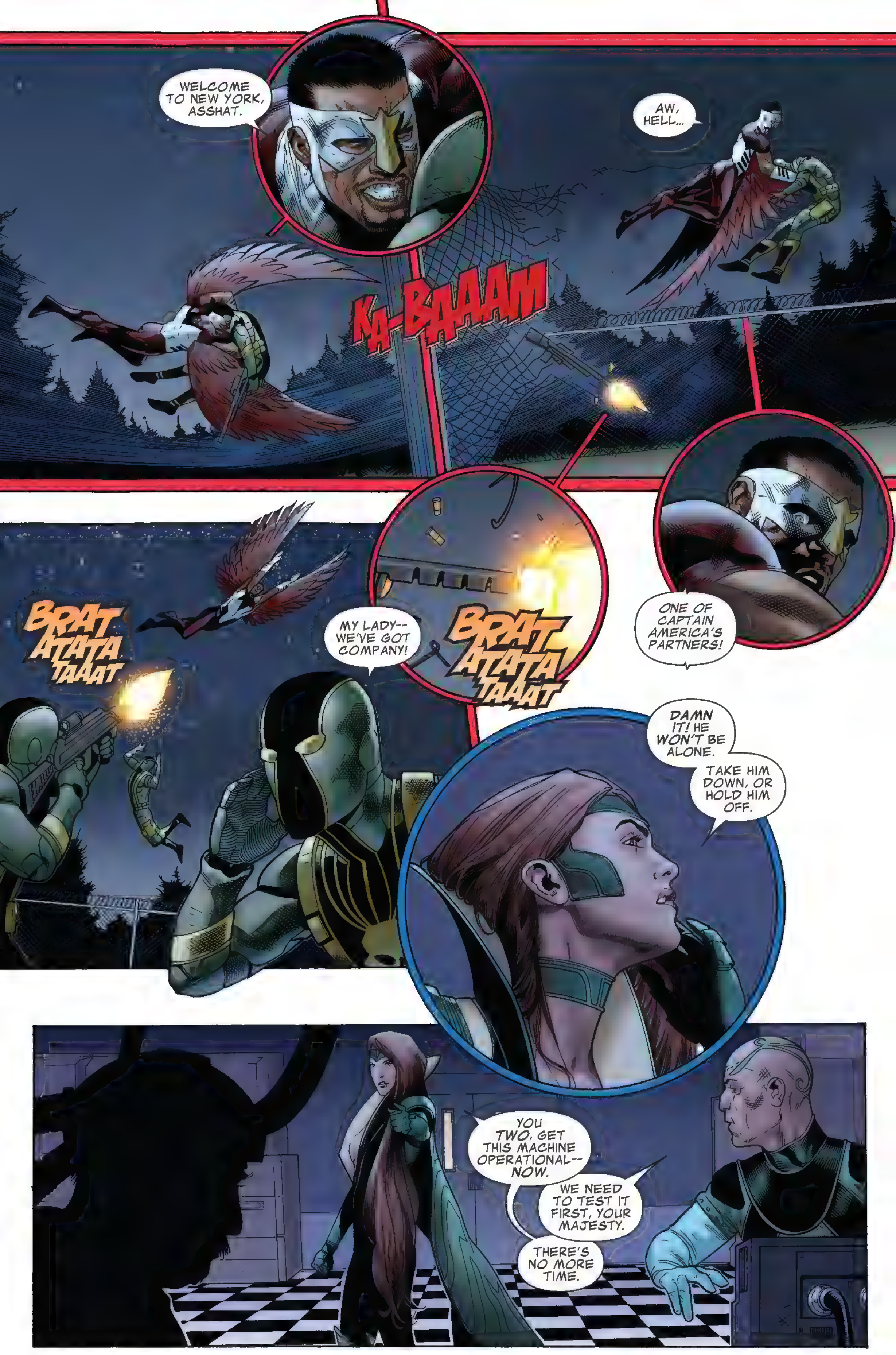

MY GOD... WHAT...?
IT ISN'T POSSIBLE... WE STOPPED THIS.
IT *CAN'T* BE REAL.
IT CAN'T BE...

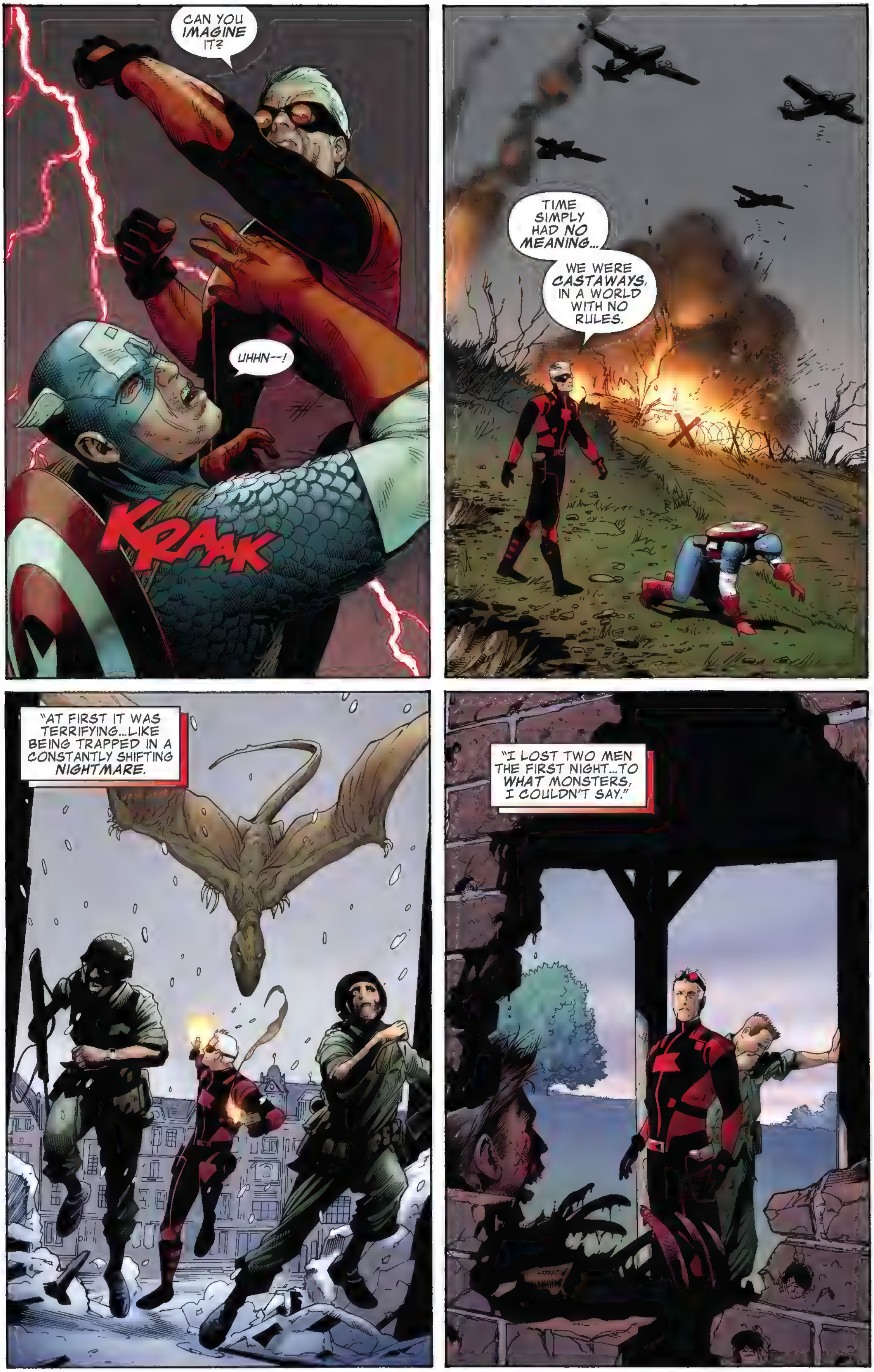

WHERE *ARE* WE? WHAT *IS* THIS PLACE?
LEMME BE! I AIN'T BOTHERIN' NO ONE!
NO...
THIS IS WRONG...
THIS IS *ALL* WRONG...
YEAH...
...AND NOW YOU KNOW JUST HOW I FELT, ROGERS.
WHEN JIMMY WOKE UP FROM HIS COMA AND WE WERE ALL CAST OUT... INTO *YOUR* WORLD...

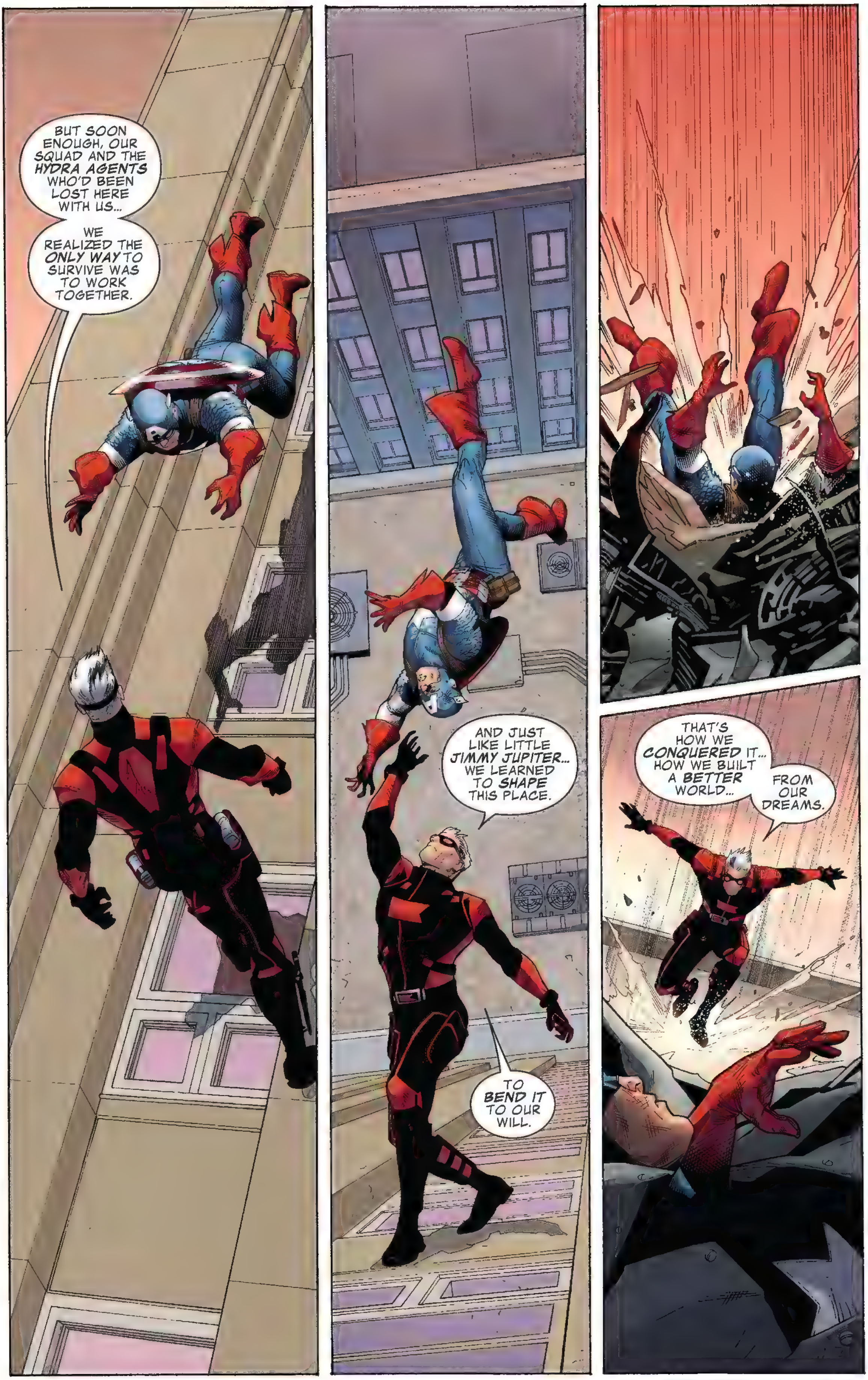

WHHFFF--
OKAY... LOOKS LIKE THE BIRDS WERE RIGHT...
...AN' THIS NEW HYDRA SQUAD'S HIT THEIR DESTINATION.
WHERE ARE THEY, SAM?
SOME B. T. AND I. SUBSTATION...
B.T.&I.
SENDING YOU GPS COORDINATES NOW.
LOOKS LIKE WE GOT CIVILIAN CASUALTIES ALREADY, TOO.

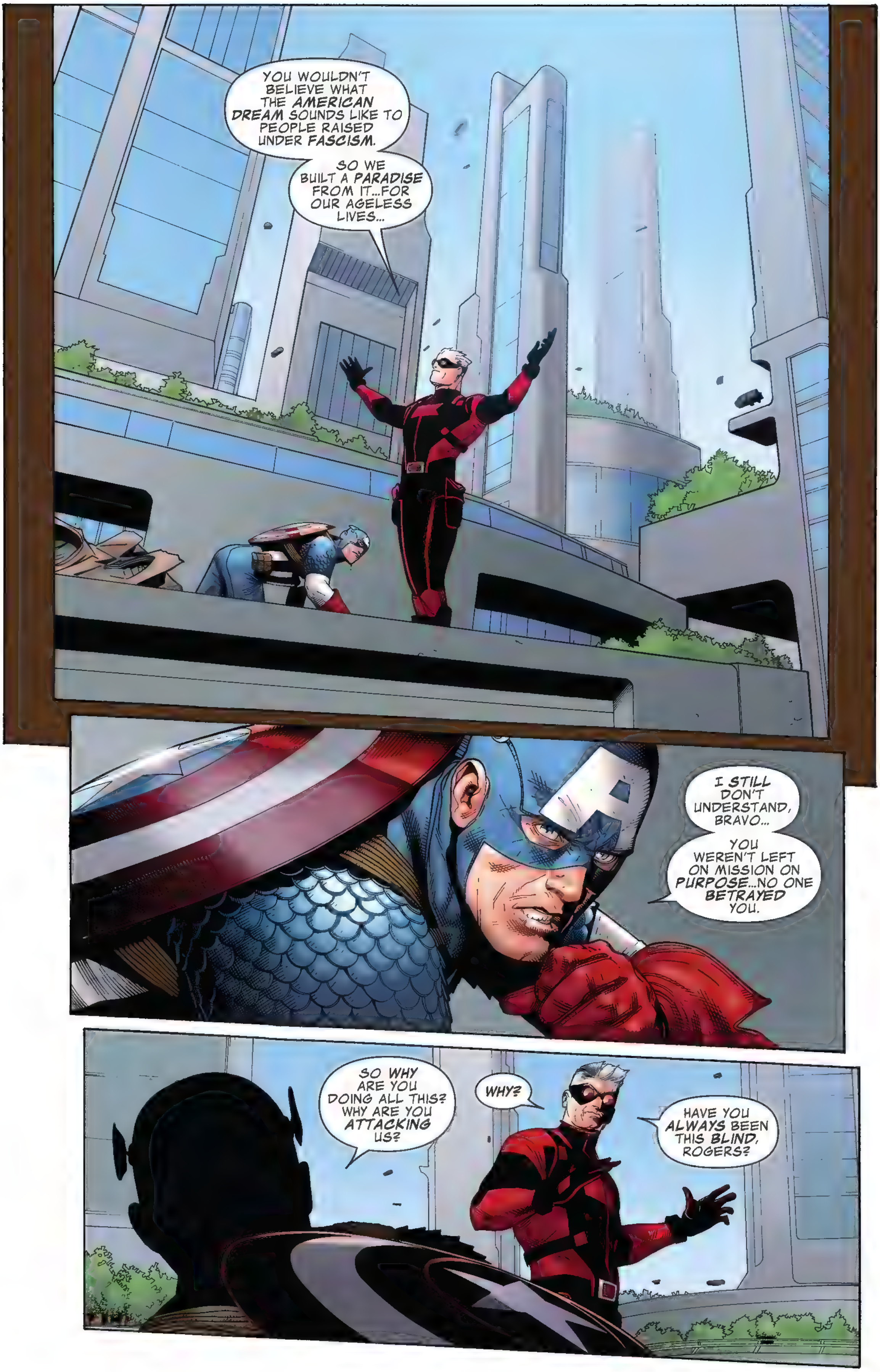

SO, WHAT'S THE PLAN? I CAN'T JUST SIT ON MY HANDS HERE.
NOT WHILE THOSE PSYCHOS HAVE MY BEST FRIEND TRAPPED...
TAKE OUT THE **PERIMETER GUARD.** WE'RE TWO MINUTES FROM YOUR POSITION...
BUT WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES **OR** WASTE ANY TIME HERE.
RIGHT. FALCON **OUT.**
B. T. AND I. IS **NATIONWIDE** PHONE AND **INTERNET,** RIGHT?
DAMN IT... THAT'S WHY THEY **NEEDED** THE OLD MAN.
THEY'RE GONNA TRY AN' **BROADCAST** JIMMY ACROSS THE WHOLE DAMN COUNTRY...
BETTER HIT THE **TURBO** ON THIS THING...
...OR WE MAY NOT EVEN HAVE A WORLD LEFT TO **SAVE.**

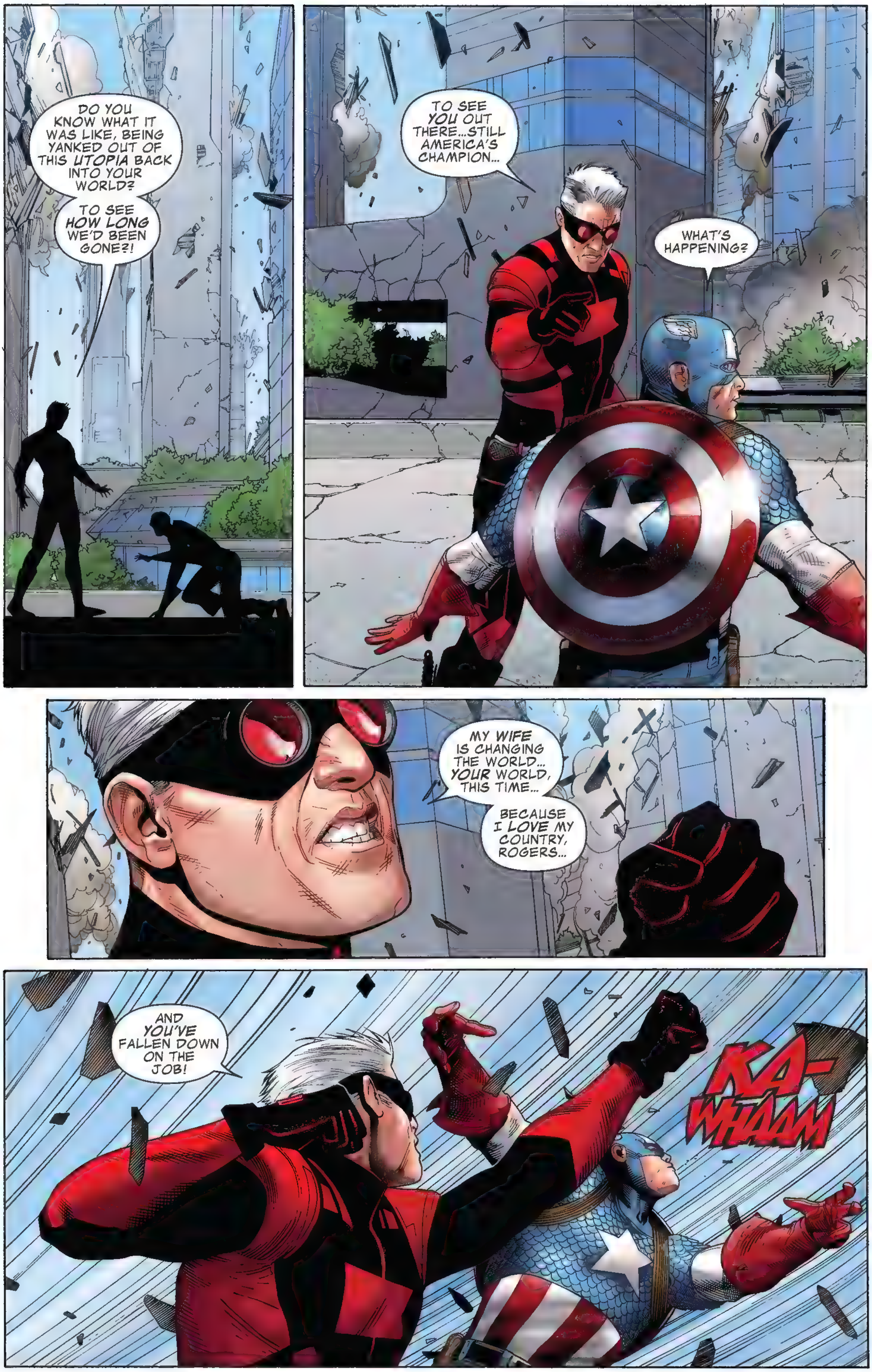

ARE WE SURE THIS WILL WORK... USING THEIR *WEB* TO MERGE *OUR WORLD* WITH THE *REAL?*
IT'S JUST A *THEORY*, MY QUEEN...BUT IT'S A SOUND ONE.
ASSUMING THE OLD MAN CAN *SURVIVE* THE PROCESS LONG ENOUGH.
IT'S A SHAME, REALLY.
IF NOT FOR HIM...I'D NEVER HAVE DISCOVERED WHO I *TRULY* WAS.
IT'S LIKE WE'RE SACRIFICING OUR OWN *MAKER*.

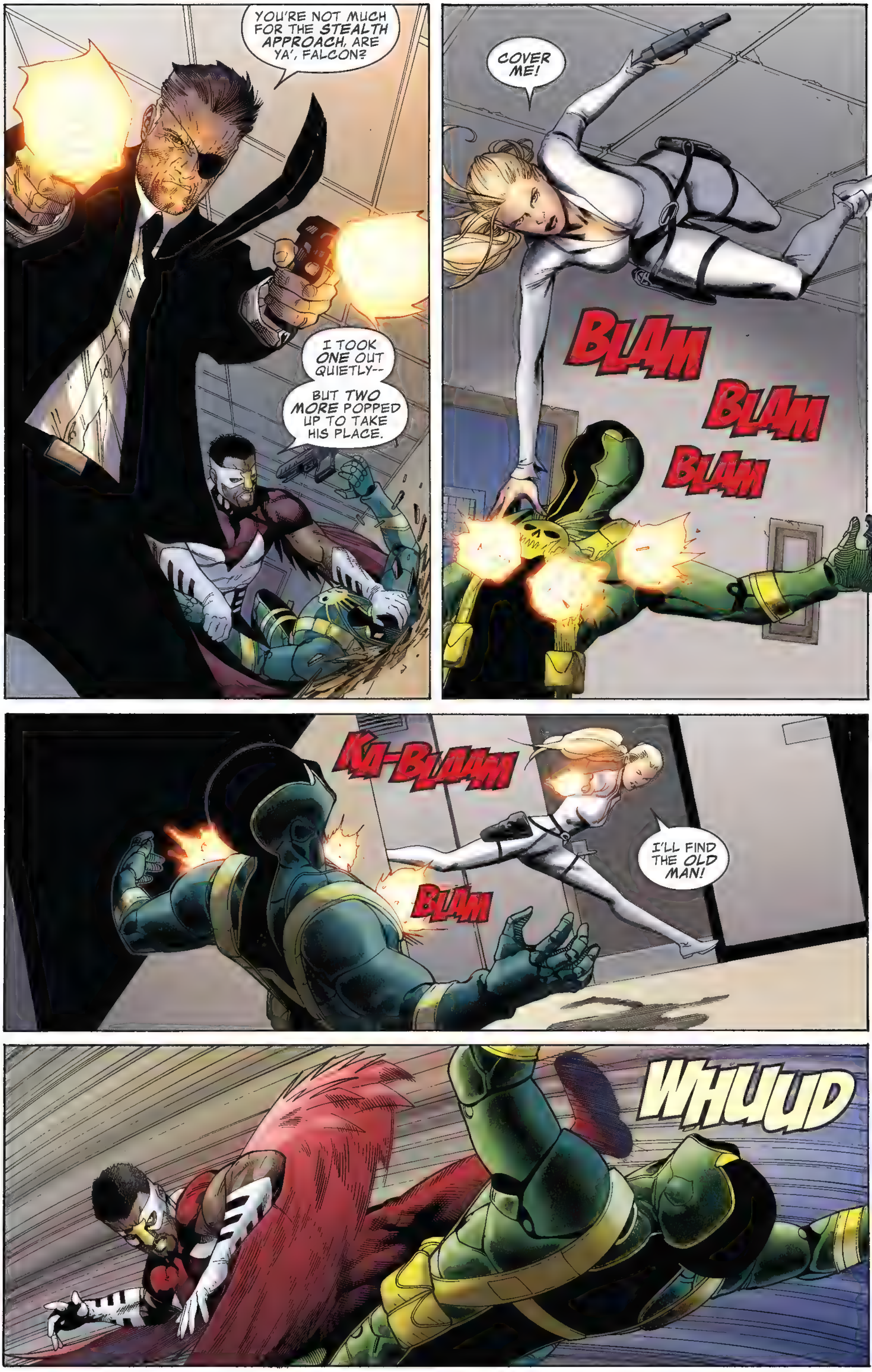

WELCOME TO NEW YORK, ASSHAT.
AW, HELL...
KA-BAAAM
ONE OF CAPTAIN AMERICA'S PARTNERS!
BRAT ATATA TAAAT
MY LADY-- WE'VE GOT COMPANY!
BRAT ATATA TAAAT
DAMN IT! HE WON'T BE ALONE.
TAKE HIM DOWN, OR HOLD HIM OFF.
YOU TWO, GET THIS MACHINE OPERATIONAL-- NOW.
WE NEED TO TEST IT FIRST, YOUR MAJESTY.
THERE'S NO MORE TIME.

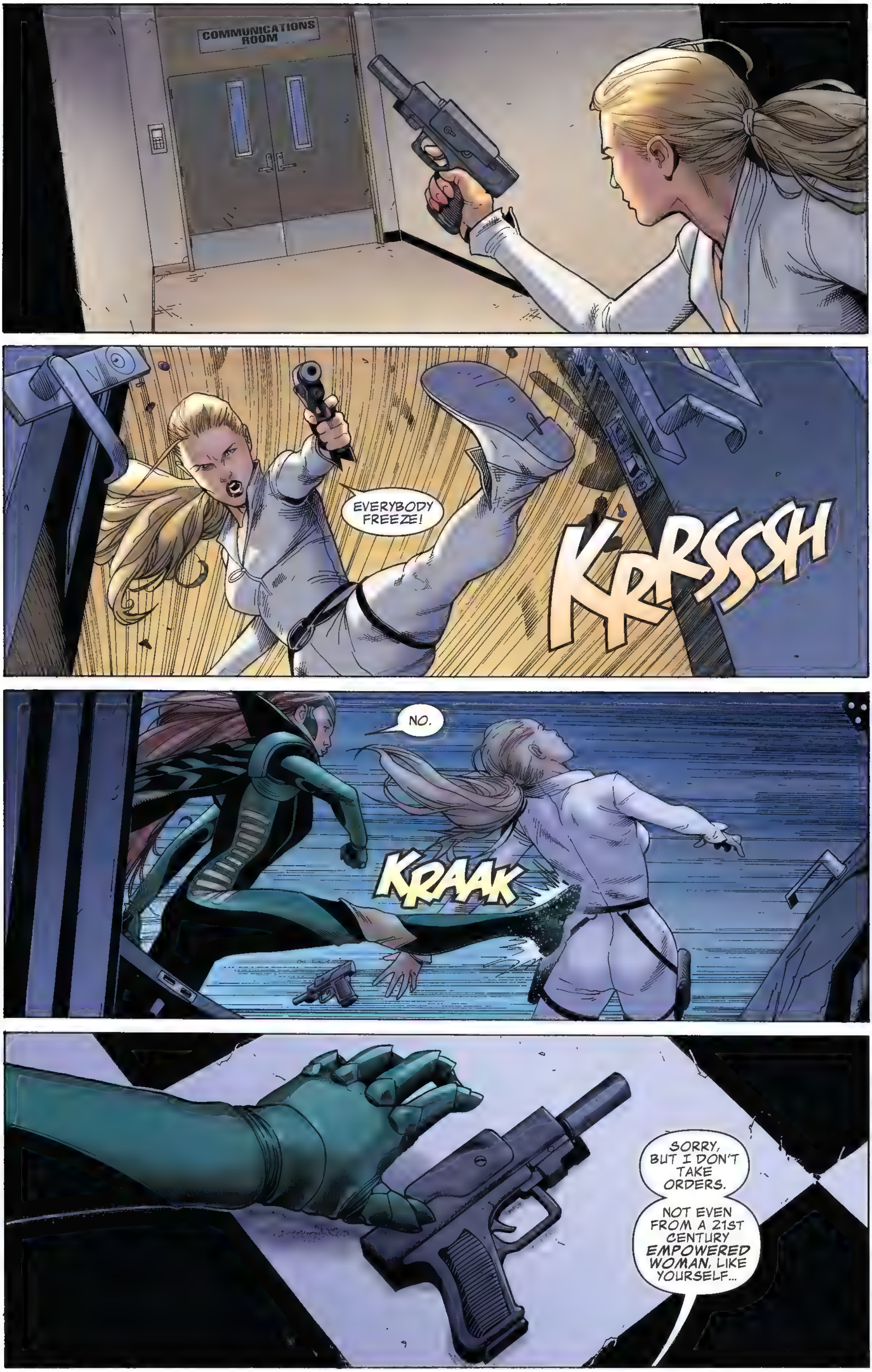

CAN YOU *IMAGINE* IT?
UHHN--!
KRAAK
TIME SIMPLY HAD *NO MEANING*...
WE WERE *CASTAWAYS*, IN A WORLD WITH NO RULES.
"AT FIRST IT WAS TERRIFYING...LIKE BEING TRAPPED IN A CONSTANTLY SHIFTING *NIGHTMARE*.
"I LOST TWO MEN THE FIRST NIGHT...TO *WHAT MONSTERS*, I COULDN'T SAY."

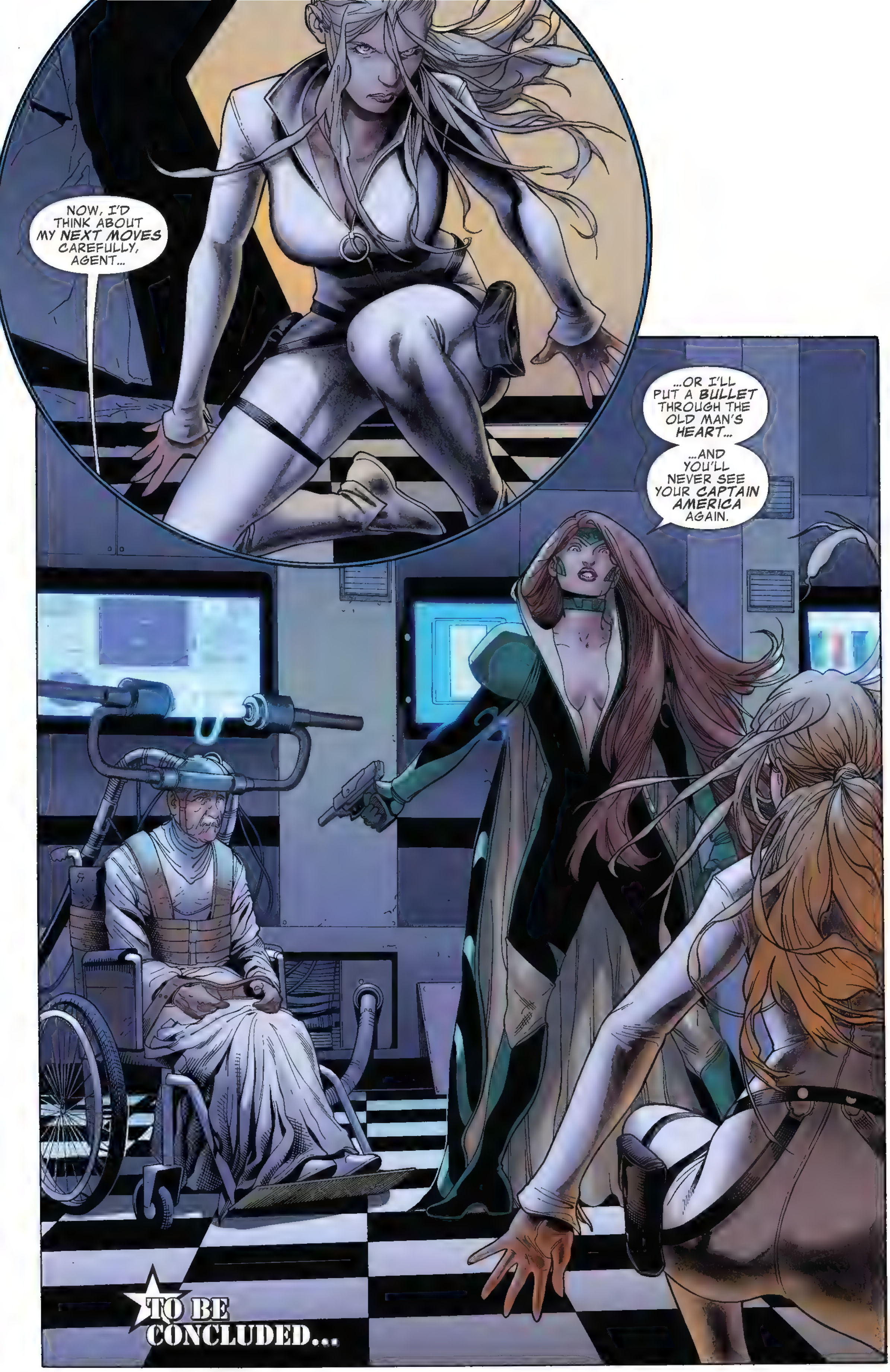

BUT SOON ENOUGH, OUR SQUAD AND THE HYDRA AGENTS WHO'D BEEN LOST HERE WITH US...
WE REALIZED THE ONLY WAY TO SURVIVE WAS TO WORK TOGETHER.
AND JUST LIKE LITTLE JIMMY JUPITER... WE LEARNED TO SHAPE THIS PLACE.
TO BEND IT TO OUR WILL.
THAT'S HOW WE CONQUERED IT... HOW WE BUILT A BETTER WORLD...
FROM OUR DREAMS.


YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT THE AMERICAN DREAM SOUNDS LIKE TO PEOPLE RAISED UNDER FASCISM.
SO WE BUILT A PARADISE FROM IT...FOR OUR AGELESS LIVES...
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND, BRAVO...
YOU WEREN'T LEFT ON MISSION ON PURPOSE...NO ONE BETRAYED YOU.
SO WHY ARE YOU DOING ALL THIS? WHY ARE YOU ATTACKING US?
WHY?
HAVE YOU ALWAYS BEEN THIS BLIND, ROGERS?


DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT WAS LIKE, BEING YANKED OUT OF THIS *UTOPIA* BACK INTO YOUR WORLD?
TO SEE *HOW LONG* WE'D BEEN GONE?!
TO SEE *YOU* OUT THERE...STILL AMERICA'S CHAMPION...
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
MY WIFE IS CHANGING THE WORLD... *YOUR* WORLD, THIS TIME...
BECAUSE *I LOVE* MY COUNTRY, ROGERS...
AND *YOU'VE* FALLEN DOWN ON THE JOB!
KA-WHAAM


YOU'RE NOT MUCH FOR THE *STEALTH APPROACH*, ARE YA', FALCON?
I TOOK *ONE* OUT QUIETLY--
BUT *TWO MORE* POPPED UP TO TAKE HIS PLACE.
COVER ME!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
KA-BLAAM
I'LL FIND THE *OLD* MAN!
BLAM
WHUUD


COMMUNICATIONS ROOM
EVERYBODY FREEZE!
KRRSSSH
NO.
KRAAK
SORRY, BUT I DON'T TAKE ORDERS.
NOT EVEN FROM A 21ST CENTURY *EMPOWERED WOMAN*, LIKE YOURSELF...


NOW, I'D THINK ABOUT MY NEXT MOVES CAREFULLY, AGENT...
...OR I'LL PUT A BULLET THROUGH THE OLD MAN'S HEART...
...AND YOU'LL NEVER SEE YOUR CAPTAIN AMERICA AGAIN.
TO BE CONCLUDED...

MARVEL
5
BRUBAKER
McNIVEN
CAMUNCOLI
LEISTEN
CAPTAIN AMERICA

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CAPTAIN AMERICA

IN 1944, WHILE PURSUING MEMBERS OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION HYDRA, AN ALLIED OPERATIVE KNOWN AS CODENAME BRAVO WAS LOST IN AN EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL DREAM WORLD, THE LAND OF NOWHERE. IN THE PRESENT, BRAVO HAS RETURNED HOME AND IS IN LEAGUE WITH A NEWER AND DEADLIER BRANCH OF HYDRA, LED BY HIS WIFE, THE QUEEN HYDRA . USING THE CATATONIC JIMMY JUPITER'S ABILITY TO ACCESS THE LAND OF NOWHERE, THEY PLAN TO BROADCAST JIMMY'S DREAM WORLD ACROSS THE COUNTRY. WHILE NICK FURY, SHARON CARTER, AND THE FALCON ATTEMPT TO SHUT DOWN THE IMPENDING BROADCAST, STEVE ROGERS, STRANDED IN THE LAND OF NOWHERE, IS MERCILESSLY ATTACKED BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY BY BRAVO...

AMERICAN DREAMERS PART 5

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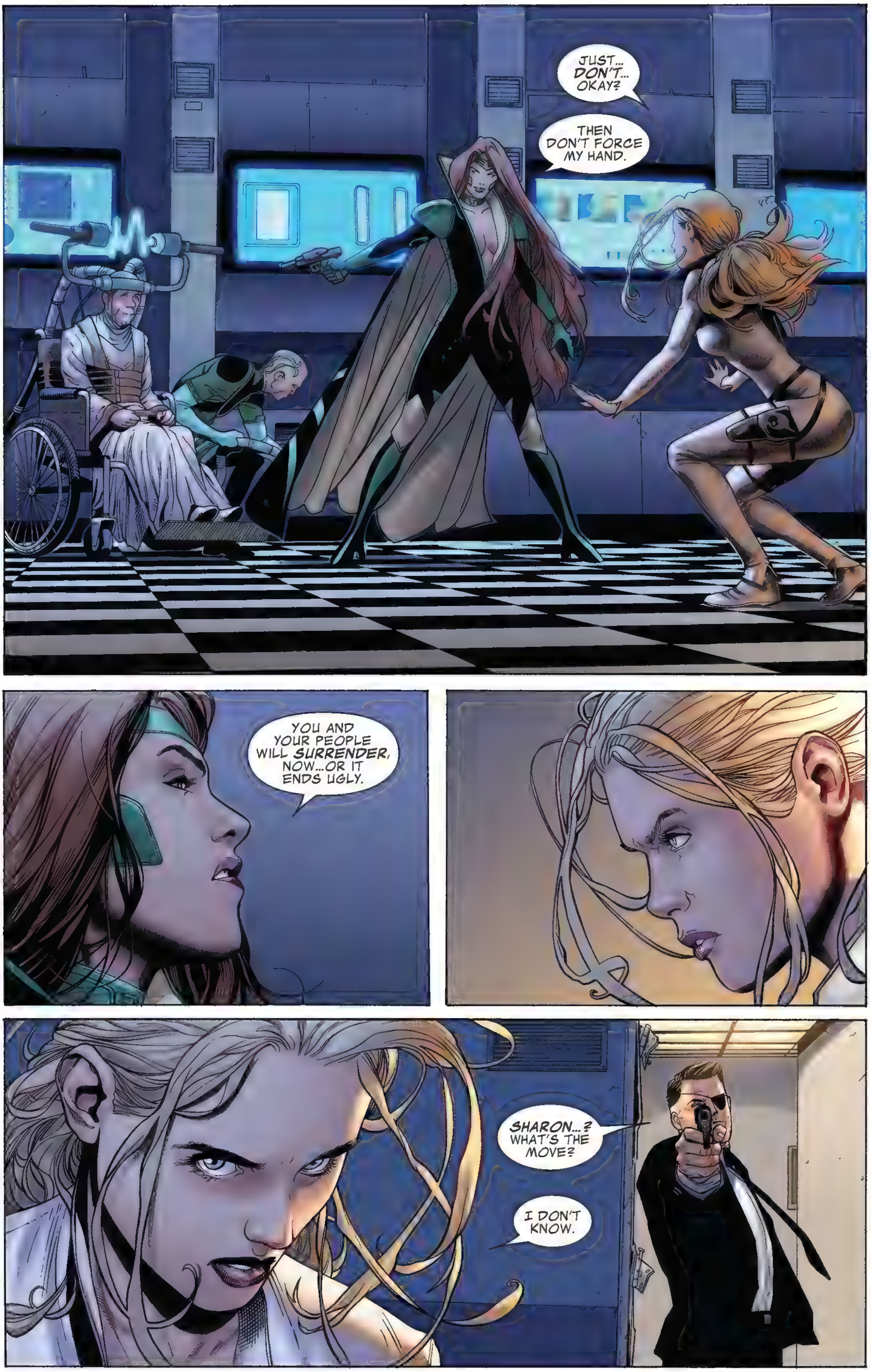
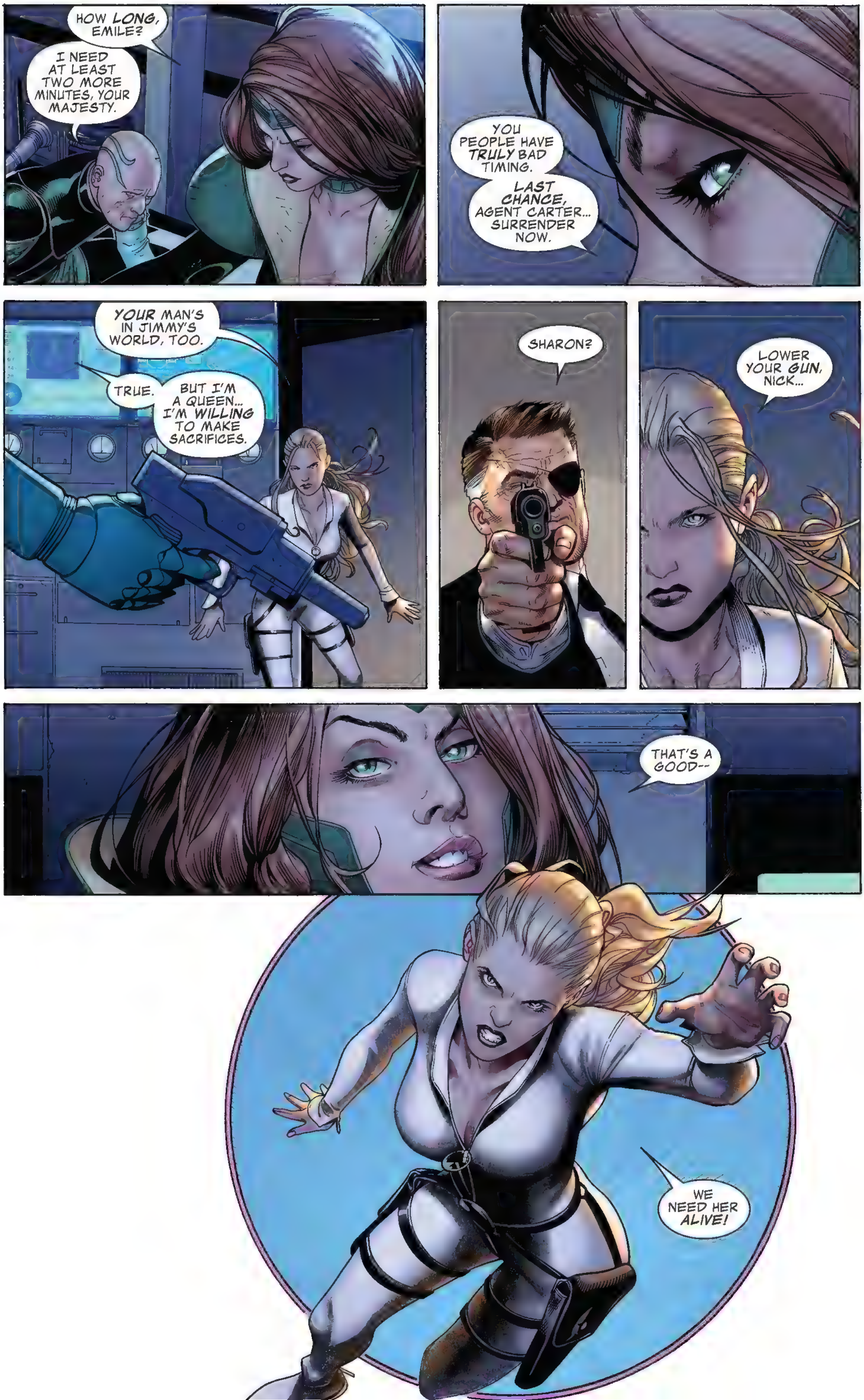
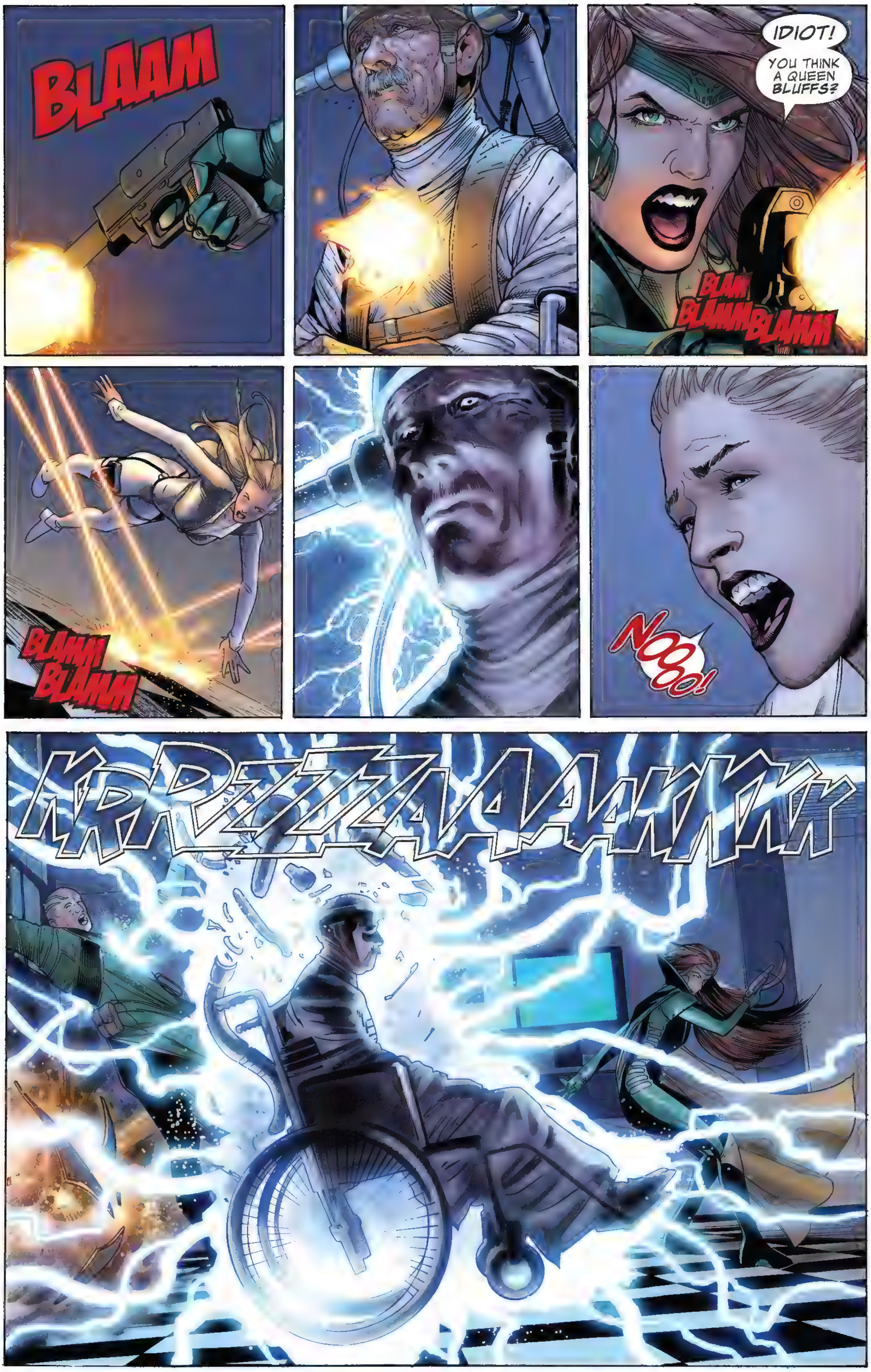
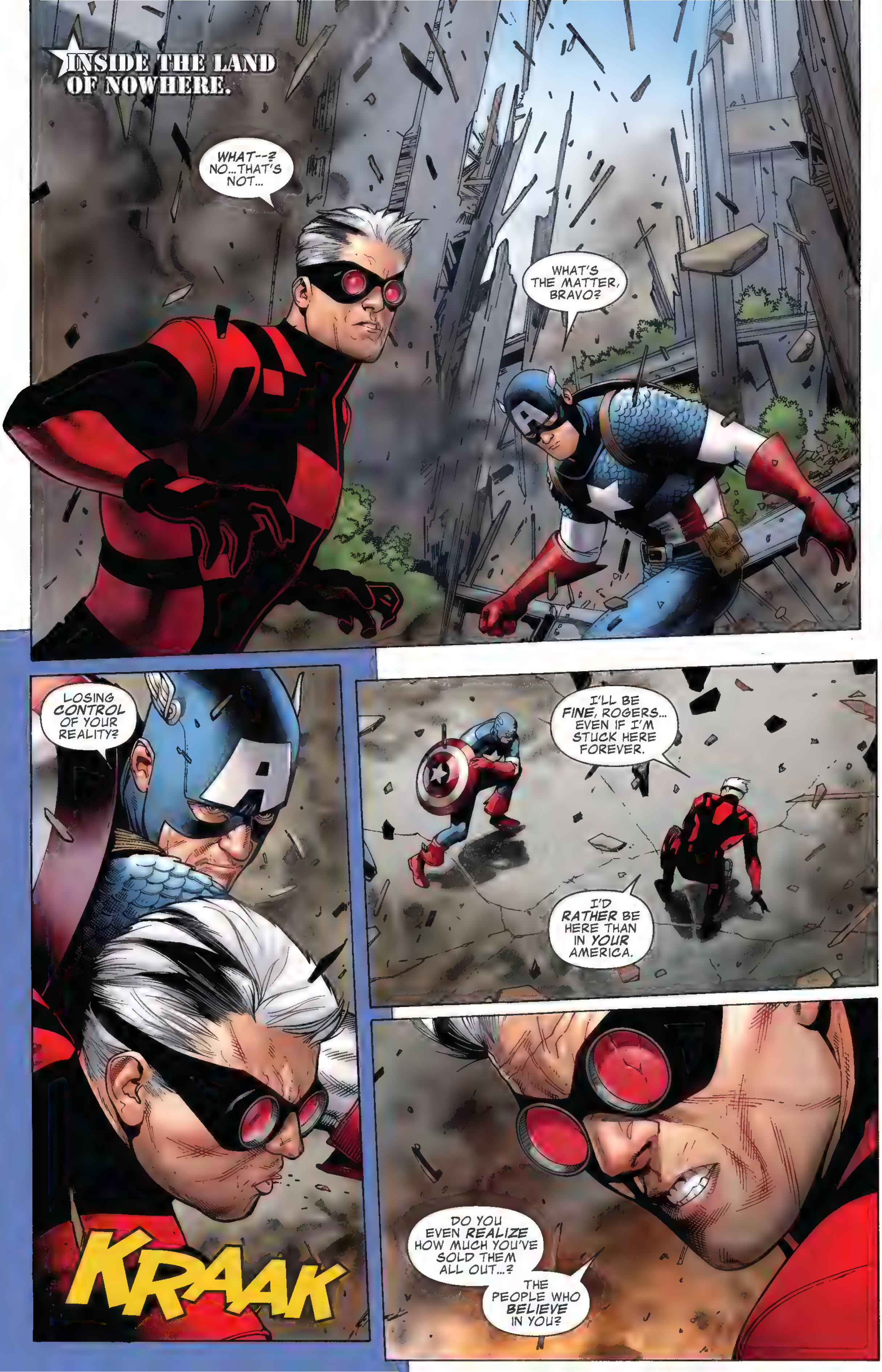
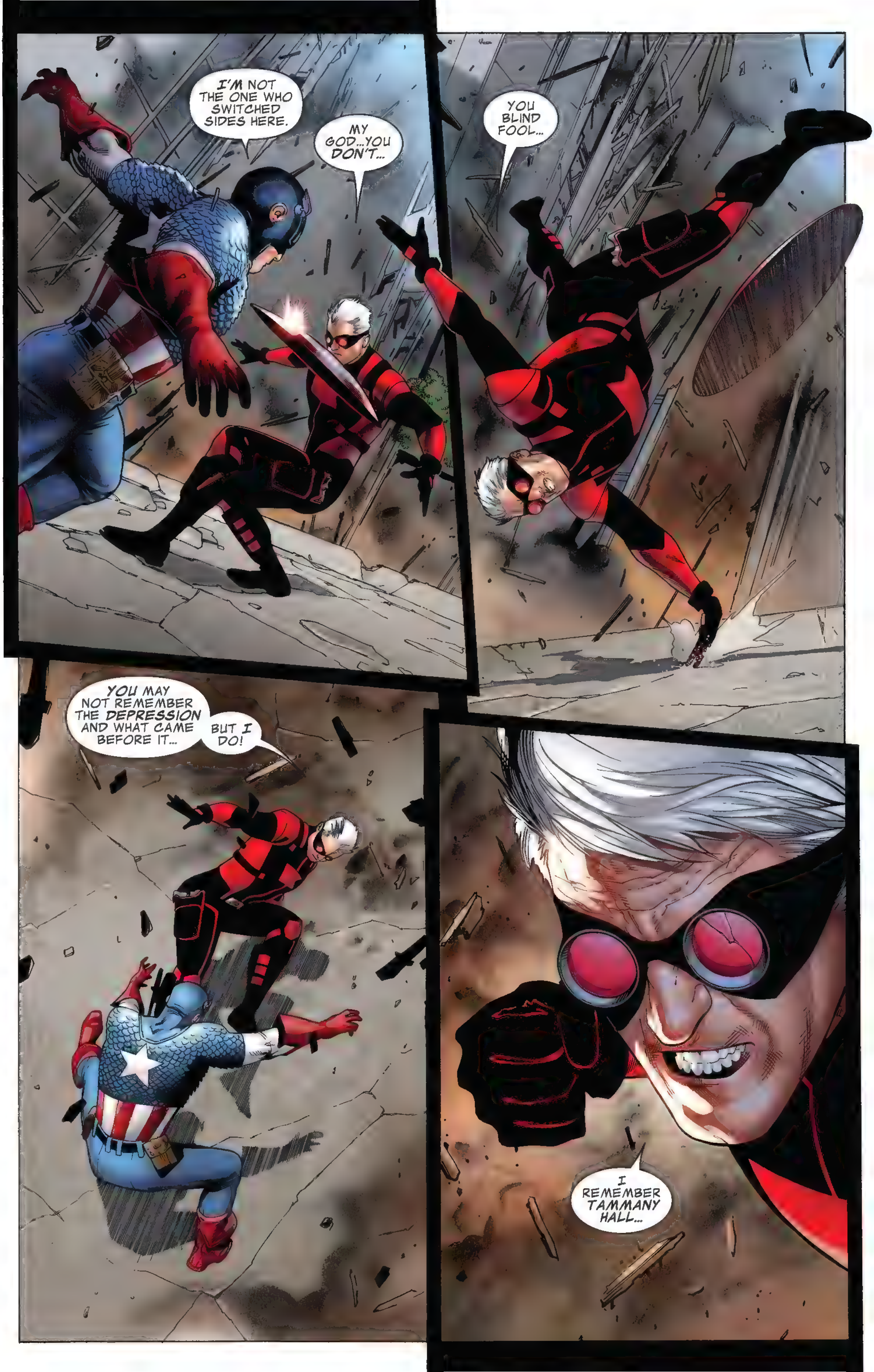
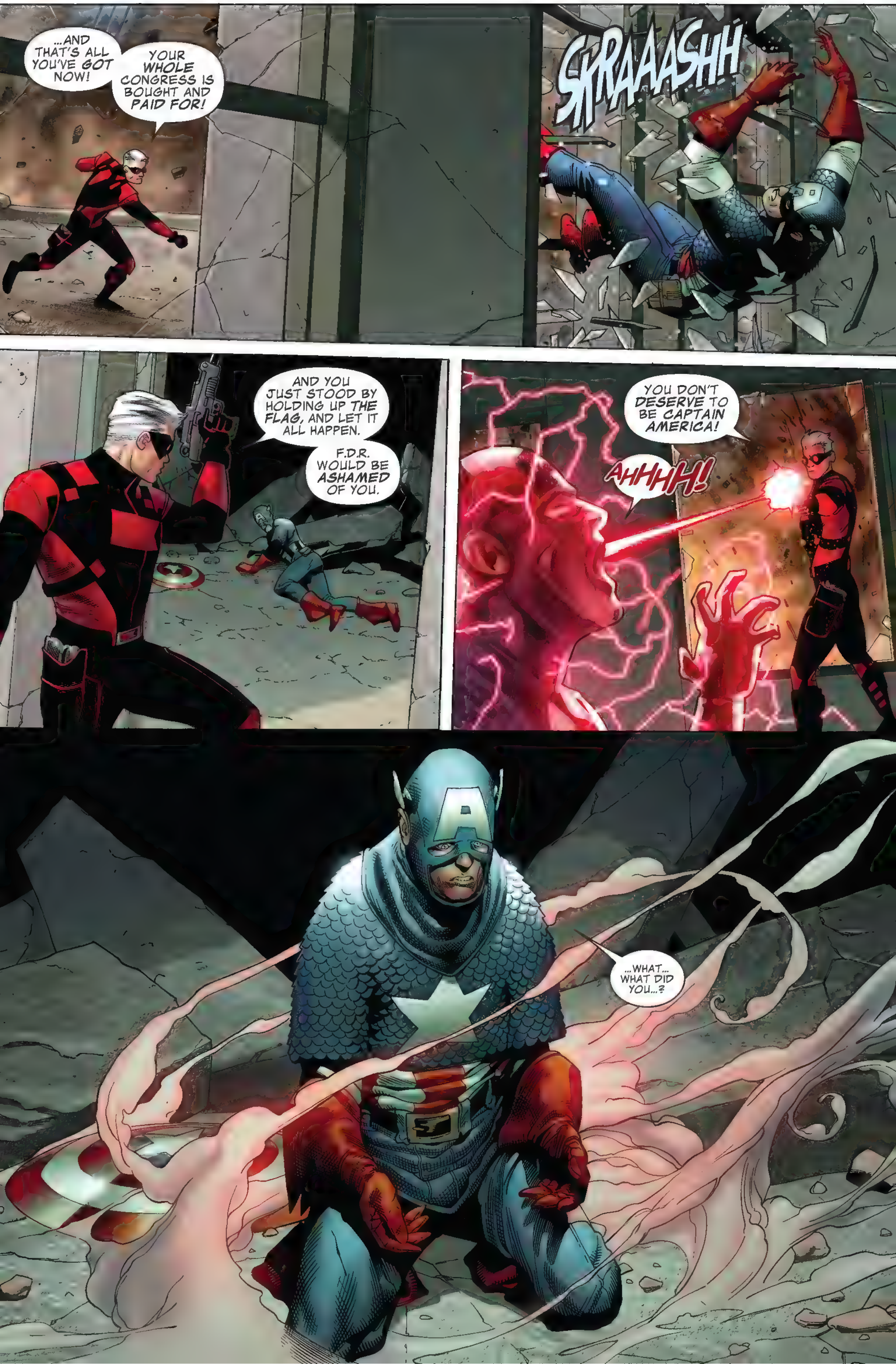

JUST... DON'T... OKAY?
THEN DON'T FORCE MY HAND.
YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE WILL SURRENDER, NOW...OR IT ENDS UGLY.
SHARON...? WHAT'S THE MOVE?
I DON'T KNOW.

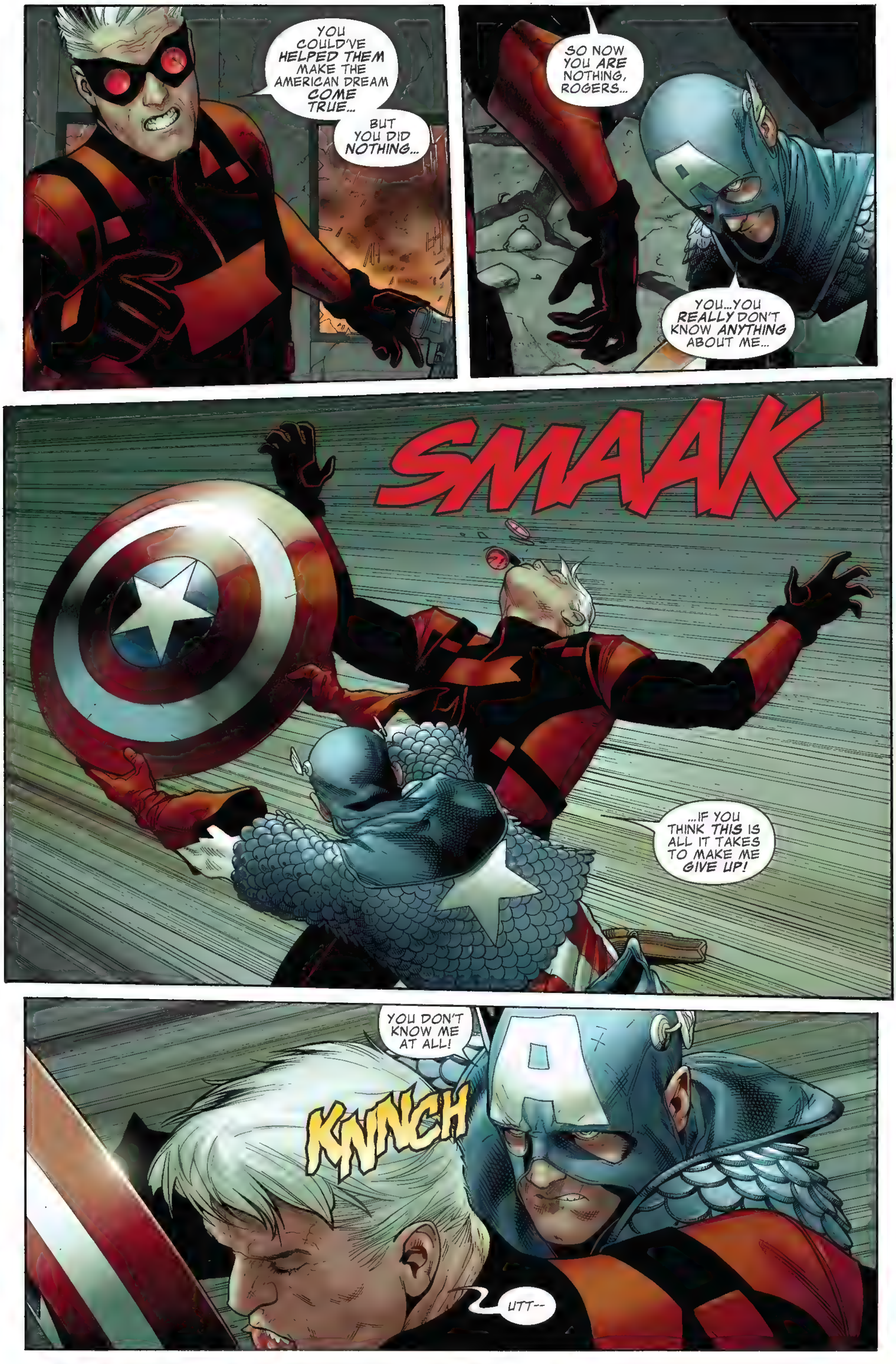

HOW LONG, EMILE?
I NEED AT LEAST TWO MORE MINUTES, YOUR MAJESTY.
YOU PEOPLE HAVE TRULY BAD TIMING.
LAST CHANCE, AGENT CARTER... SURRENDER NOW.
YOUR MAN'S IN JIMMY'S WORLD, TOO.
TRUE.
BUT I'M A QUEEN... I'M WILLING TO MAKE SACRIFICES.
SHARON?
LOWER YOUR GUN, NICK...
THAT'S A GOOD--
WE NEED HER ALIVE!

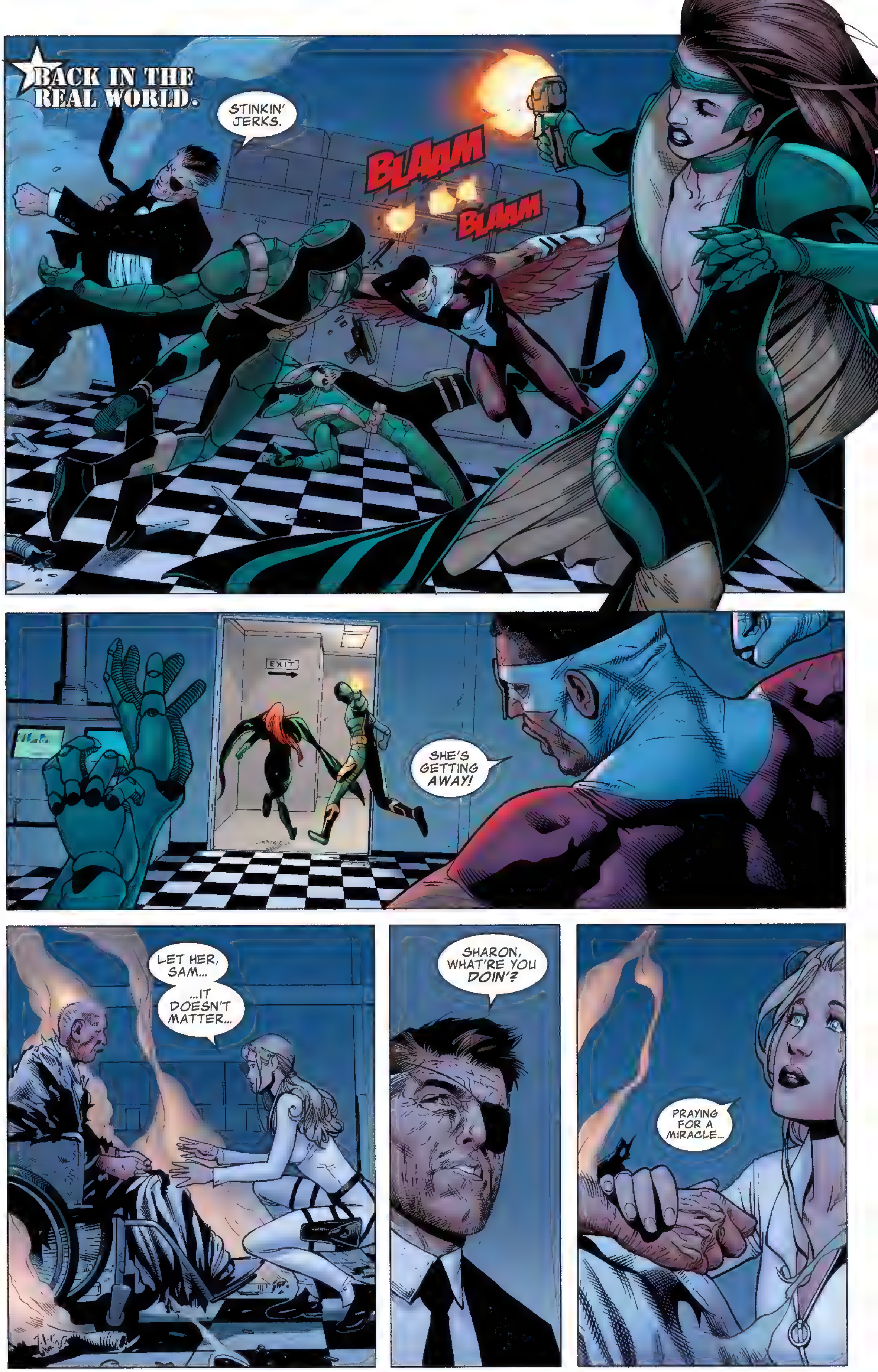

BLAAM
IDIOT!
YOU THINK A QUEEN BLUFFS?
BLAM BLAMM BLAMM
BLAMM BLAMM
NOOOO!
KRRZZZAAAAKKKK

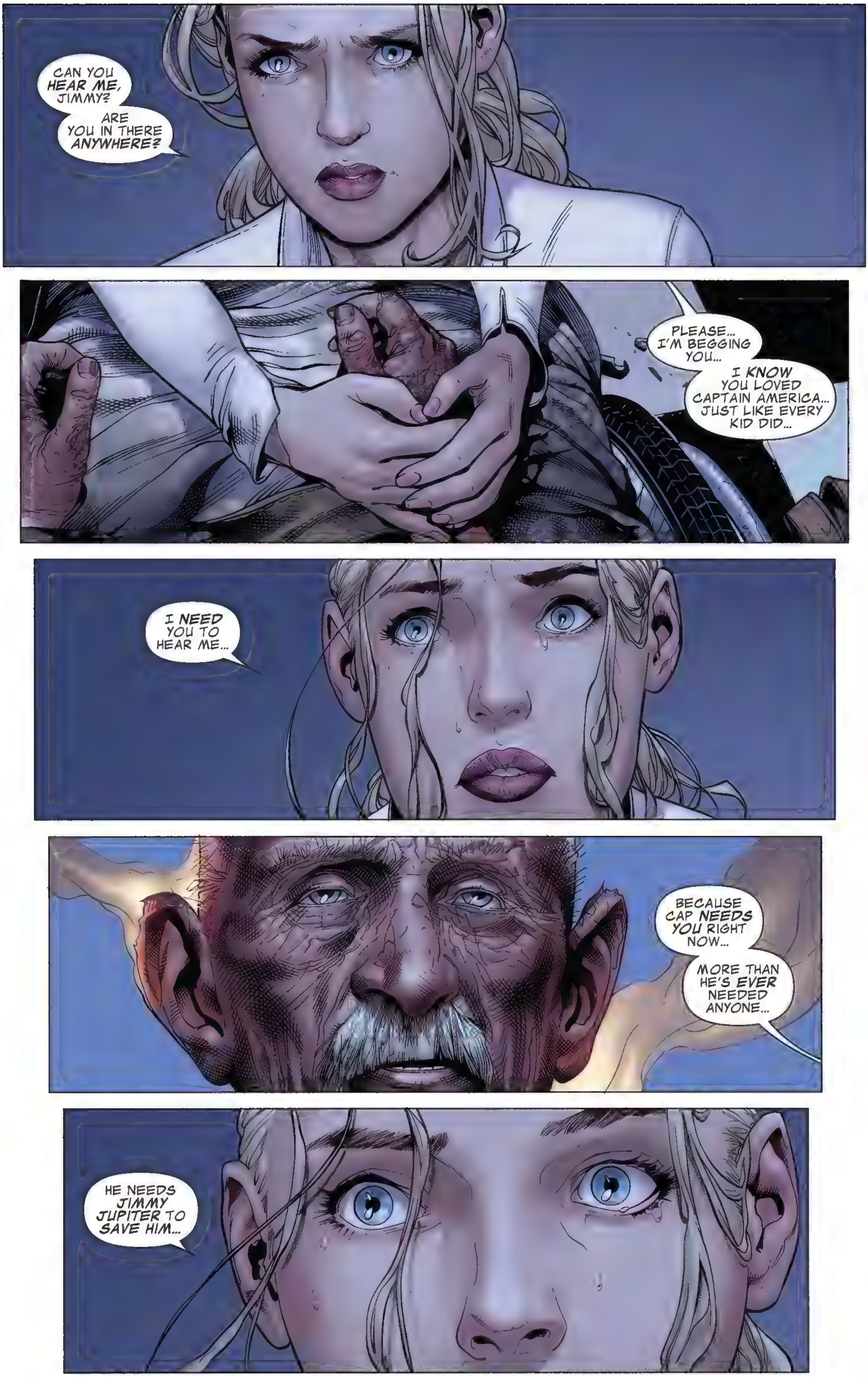

INSIDE THE LAND OF NOWHERE.
WHAT--? NO...THAT'S NOT...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BRAVO?
LOSING CONTROL OF YOUR REALITY?
KRAAK
I'LL BE FINE, ROGERS... EVEN IF I'M STUCK HERE FOREVER.
I'D RATHER BE HERE THAN IN YOUR AMERICA.
DO YOU EVEN REALIZE HOW MUCH YOU'VE SOLD THEM ALL OUT...?
THE PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE IN YOU?

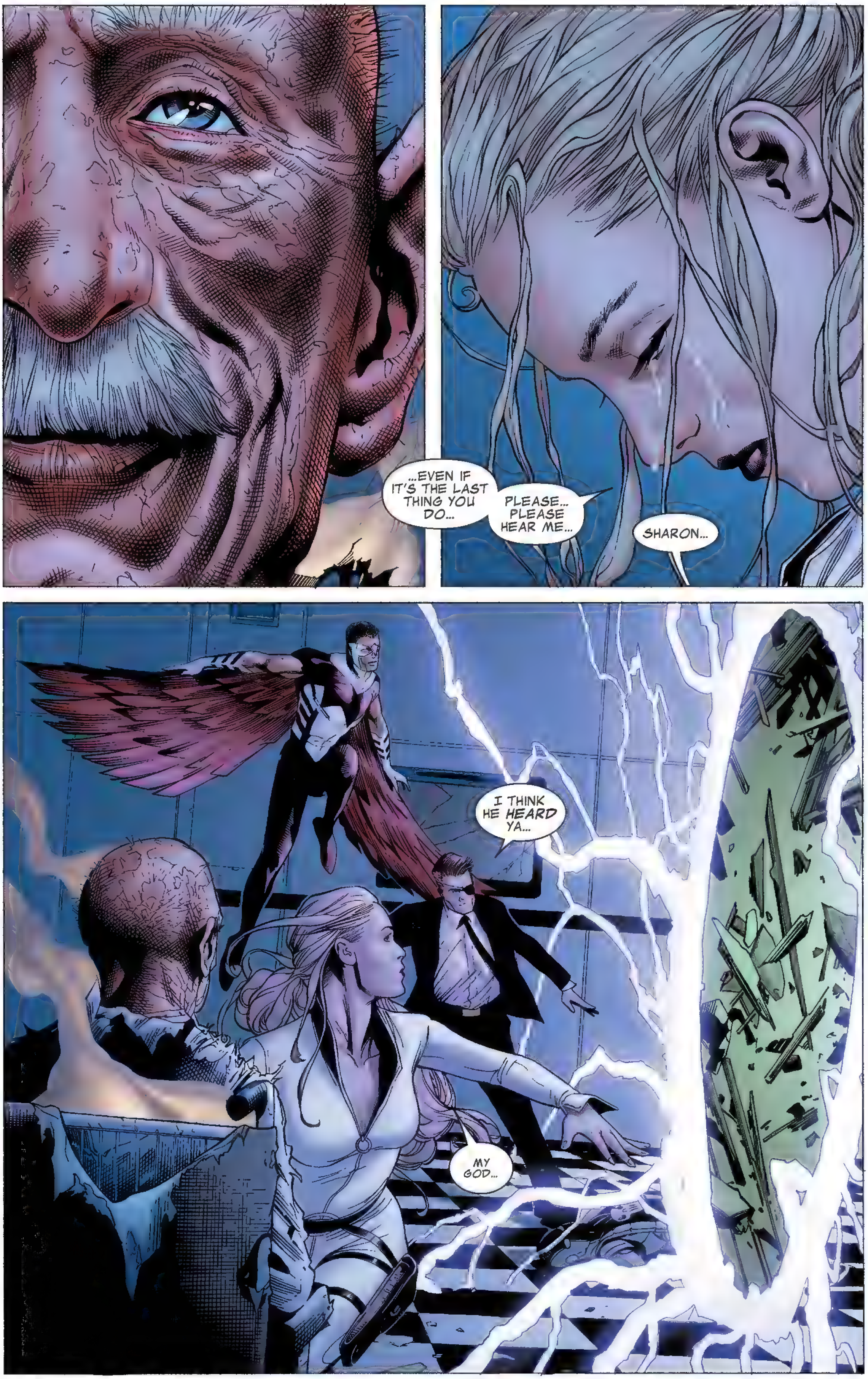

I'M NOT THE ONE WHO SWITCHED SIDES HERE.
MY GOD...YOU DON'T...
YOU BLIND FOOL...
YOU MAY NOT REMEMBER THE DEPRESSION AND WHAT CAME BEFORE IT...
BUT I DO!
I REMEMBER TAMMANY HALL...

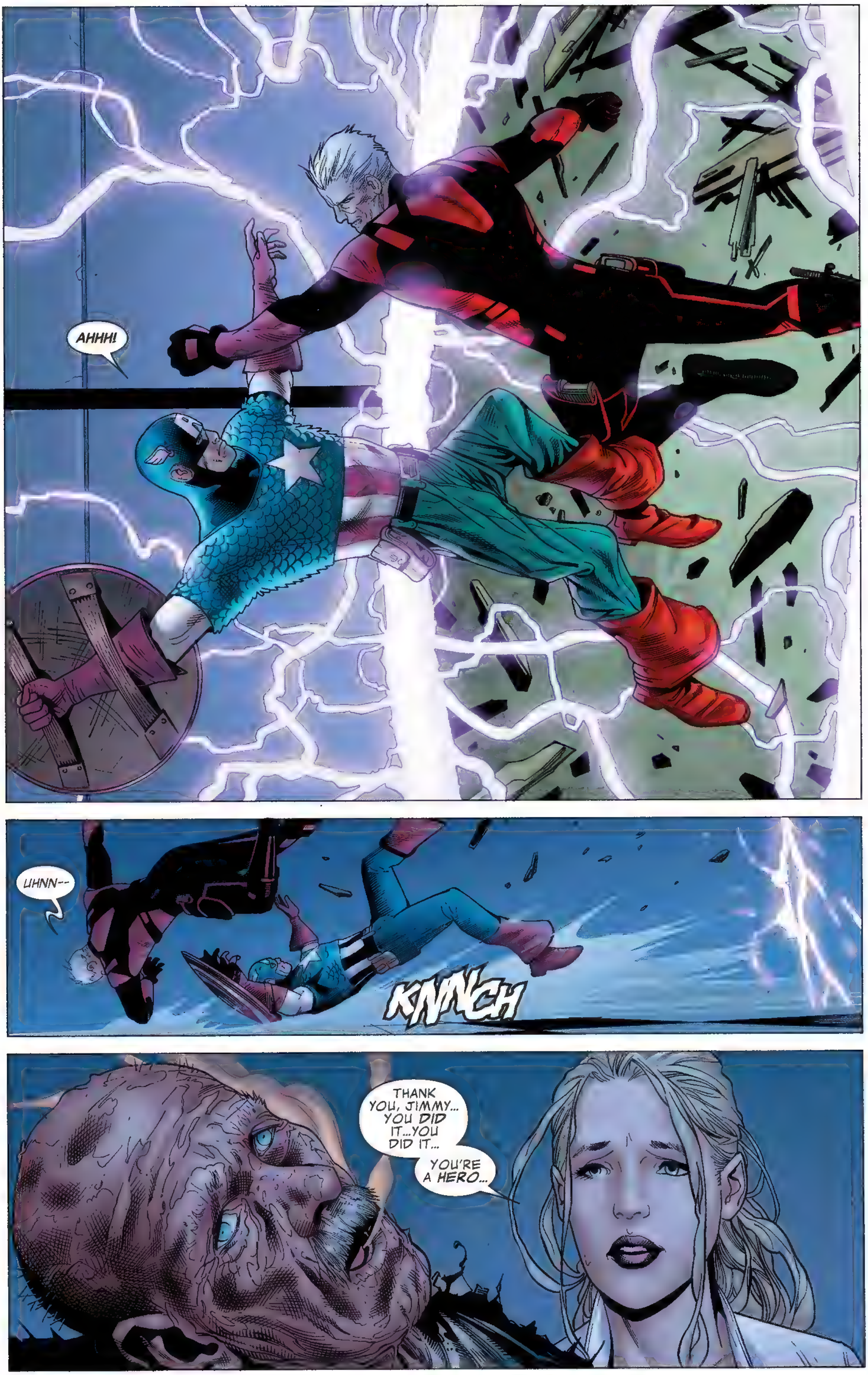

...AND THAT'S ALL YOU'VE GOT NOW!
YOUR WHOLE CONGRESS IS BOUGHT AND PAID FOR!
SKRAAASHH
AND YOU JUST STOOD BY HOLDING UP THE FLAG, AND LET IT ALL HAPPEN.
F.D.R. WOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOU.
YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE CAPTAIN AMERICA!
AHHHH!
...WHAT... WHAT DID YOU...?

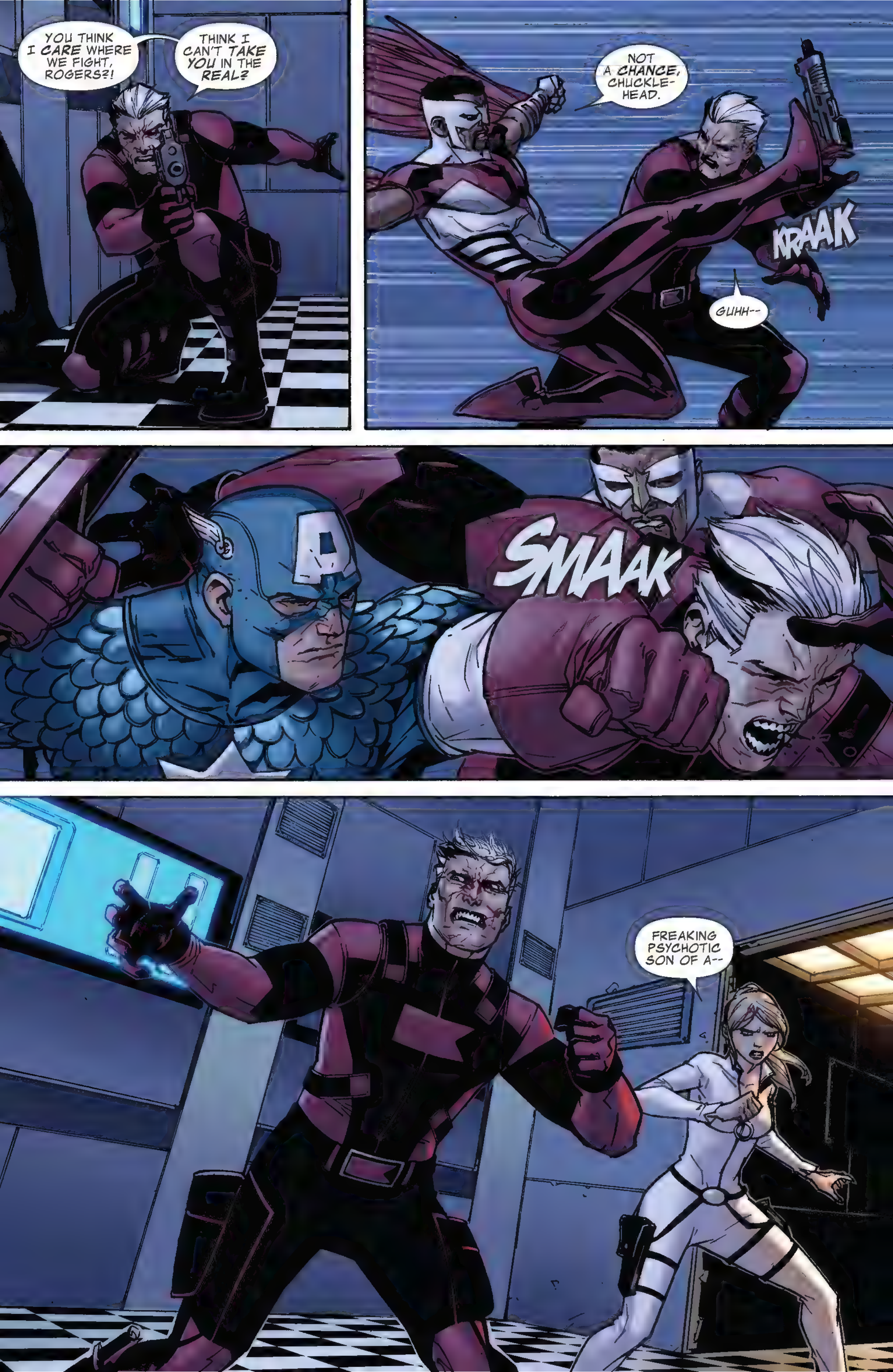

YOU COULD'VE HELPED THEM MAKE THE AMERICAN DREAM COME TRUE...
BUT YOU DID NOTHING...
SO NOW YOU ARE NOTHING, ROGERS...
YOU...YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME...
SMAAK
...IF YOU THINK THIS IS ALL IT TAKES TO MAKE ME GIVE UP!
YOU DON'T KNOW ME AT ALL!
KNNCH
UTT--

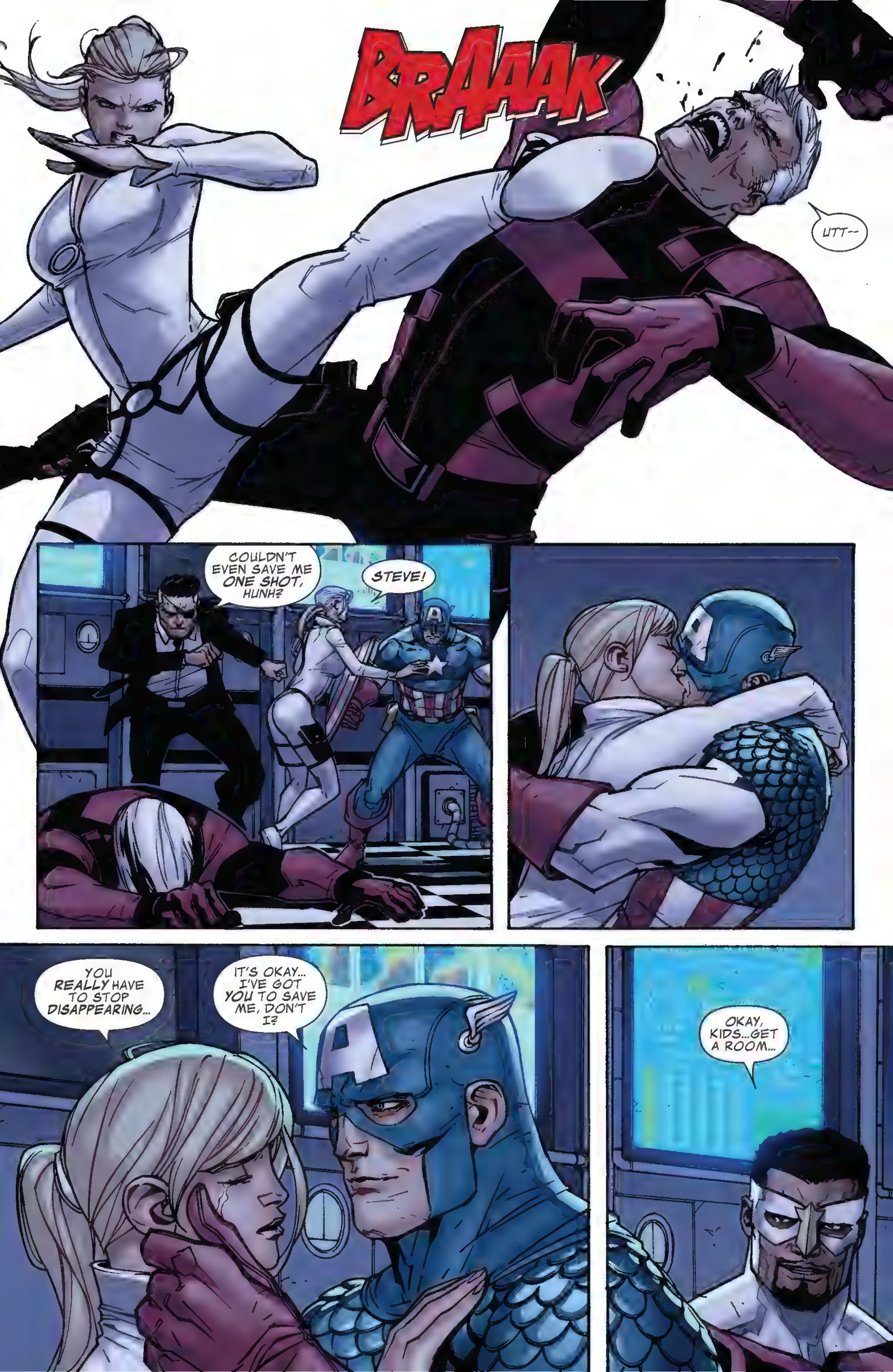

BACK IN THE REAL WORLD.
STINKIN' JERKS.
BLAAM
BLAAM
EXIT
SHE'S GETTING AWAY!
LET HER, SAM...
...IT DOESN'T MATTER...
SHARON, WHAT'RE YOU DOIN'?
PRAYING FOR A MIRACLE...

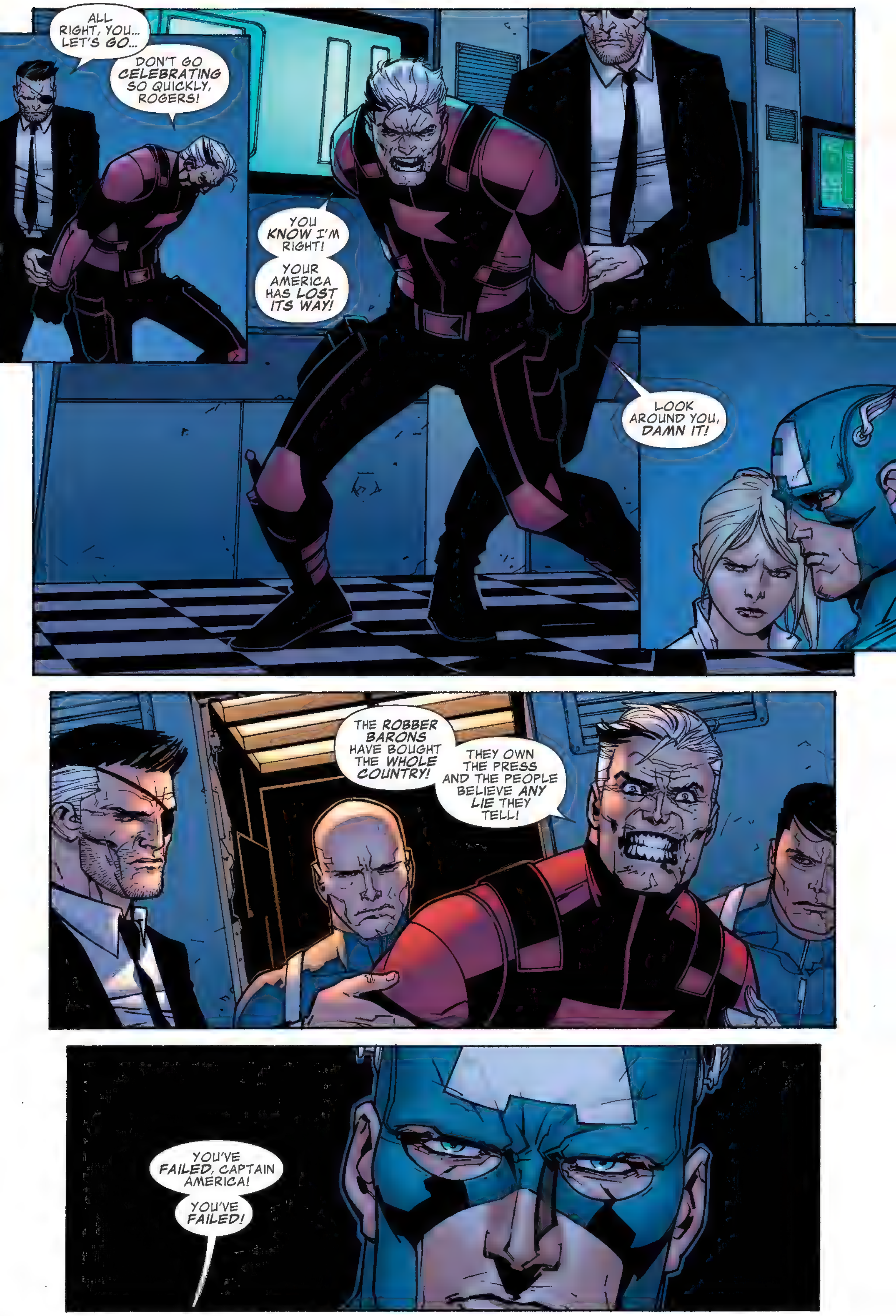

CAN YOU HEAR ME, JIMMY?
ARE YOU IN THERE ANYWHERE?
PLEASE... I'M BEGGING YOU...
I KNOW YOU LOVED CAPTAIN AMERICA... JUST LIKE EVERY KID DID...
I NEED YOU TO HEAR ME...
BECAUSE CAP NEEDS YOU RIGHT NOW...
MORE THAN HE'S EVER NEEDED ANYONE...
HE NEEDS JIMMY JUPITER TO SAVE HIM...

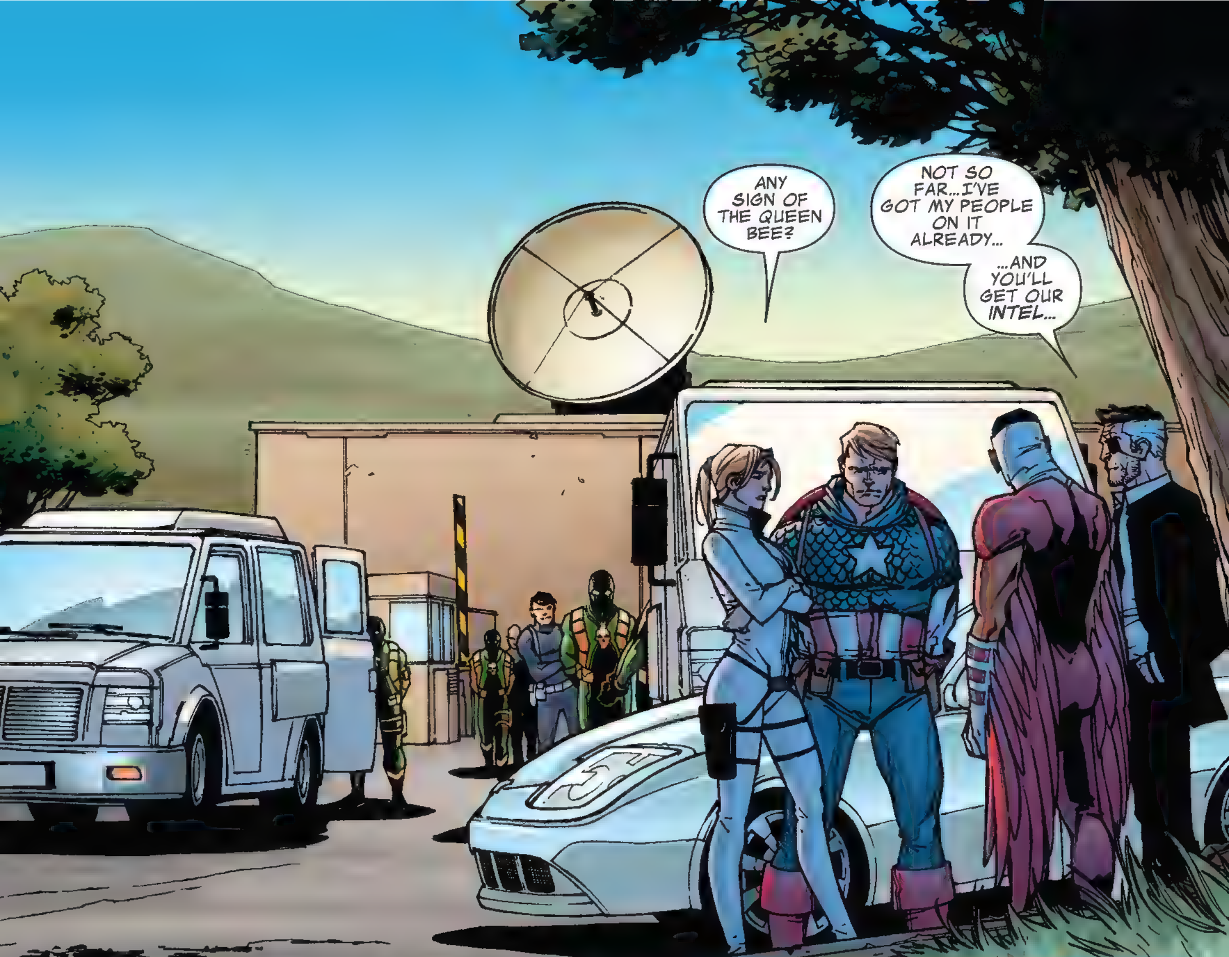

...EVEN IF IT'S THE LAST THING YOU DO...
PLEASE... PLEASE HEAR ME...
SHARON...
I THINK HE *HEARD* YA...
MY GOD...

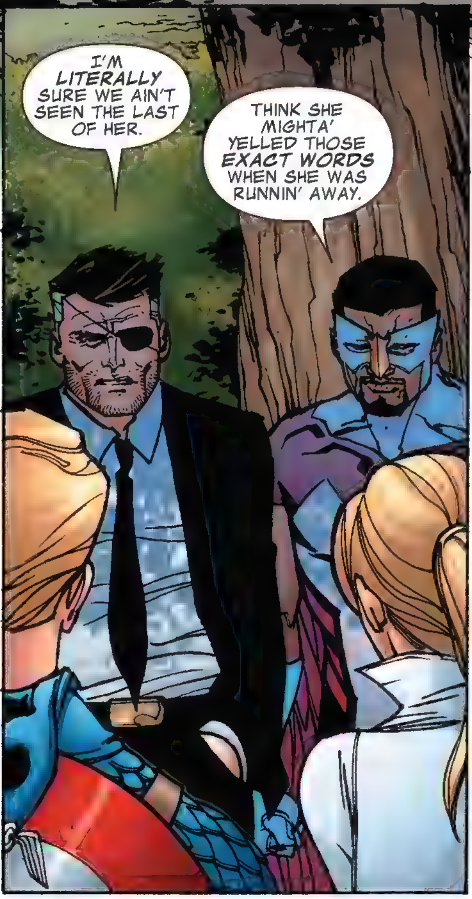

AHHH!
UHNN--
KNNCH
THANK YOU, JIMMY... YOU *DID* IT...YOU DID IT...
YOU'RE A *HERO*...

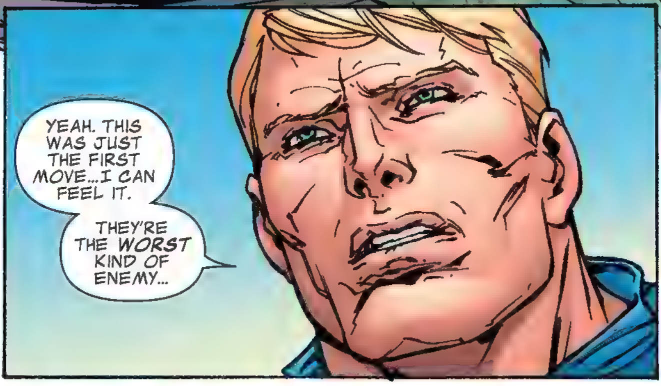

YOU THINK I CARE WHERE WE FIGHT, ROGERS?!
THINK I CAN'T TAKE YOU IN THE REAL?
NOT A CHANCE, CHUCKLE-HEAD.
KRAAK
GUHH--
SMAAK
FREAKING PSYCHOTIC SON OF A--

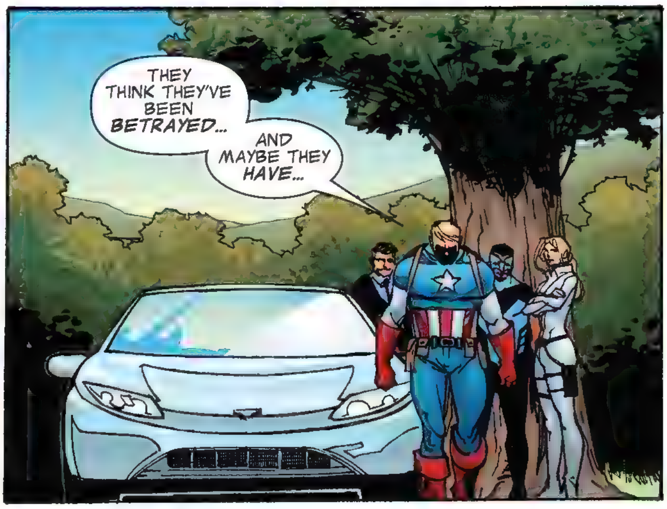

BRAAAK
UTT--
COULDN'T EVEN SAVE ME ONE SHOT, HUNH?
STEVE!
YOU REALLY HAVE TO STOP DISAPPEARING...
IT'S OKAY... I'VE GOT YOU TO SAVE ME, DON'T I?
OKAY, KIDS...GET A ROOM...

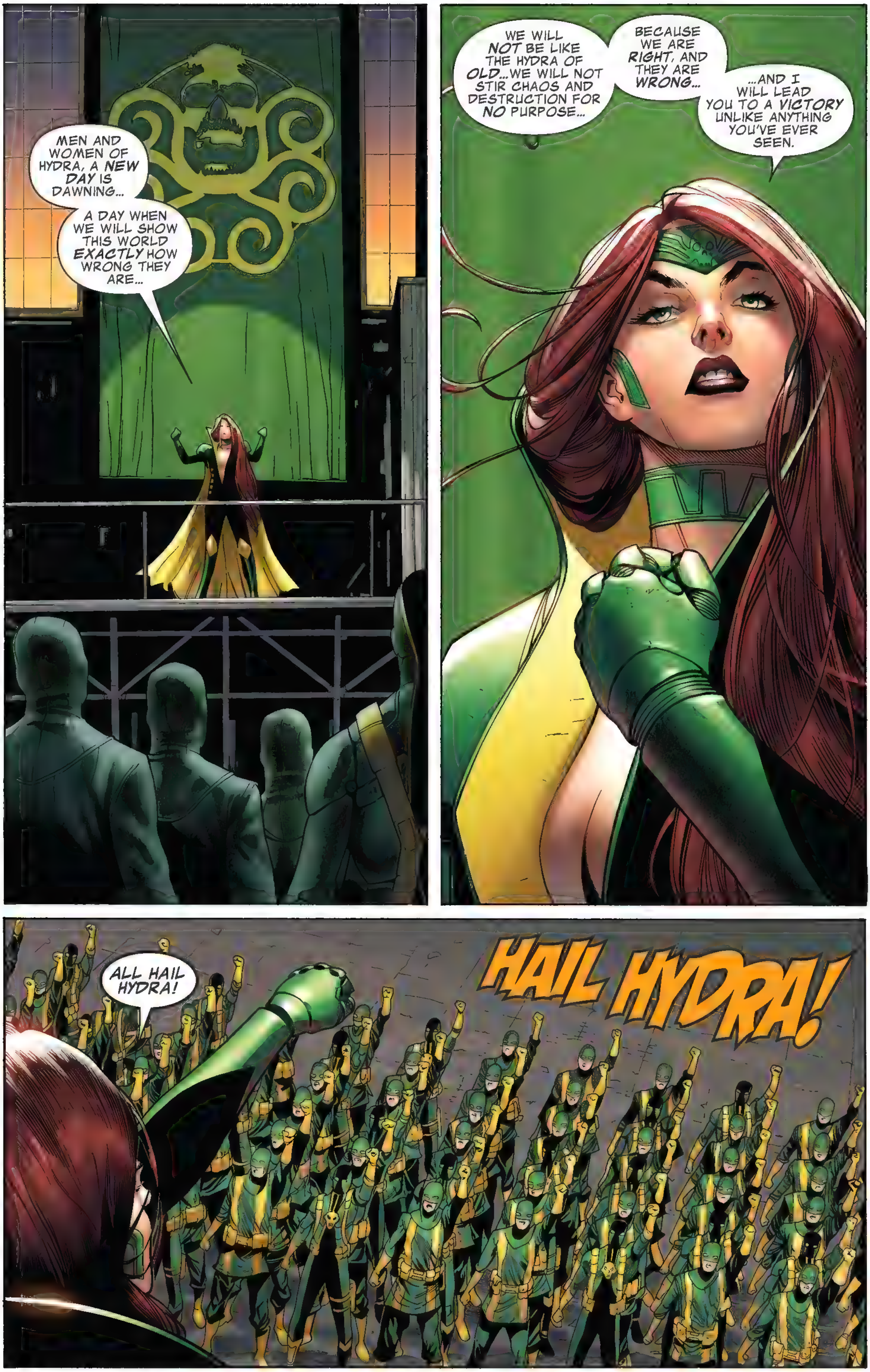

ALL RIGHT, YOU... LET'S GO...
DON'T GO CELEBRATING SO QUICKLY, ROGERS!
YOU KNOW I'M RIGHT!
YOUR AMERICA HAS LOST ITS WAY!
LOOK AROUND YOU, DAMN IT!
THE ROBBER BARONS HAVE BOUGHT THE WHOLE COUNTRY!
THEY OWN THE PRESS AND THE PEOPLE BELIEVE ANY LIE THEY TELL!
YOU'VE FAILED, CAPTAIN AMERICA!
YOU'VE FAILED!

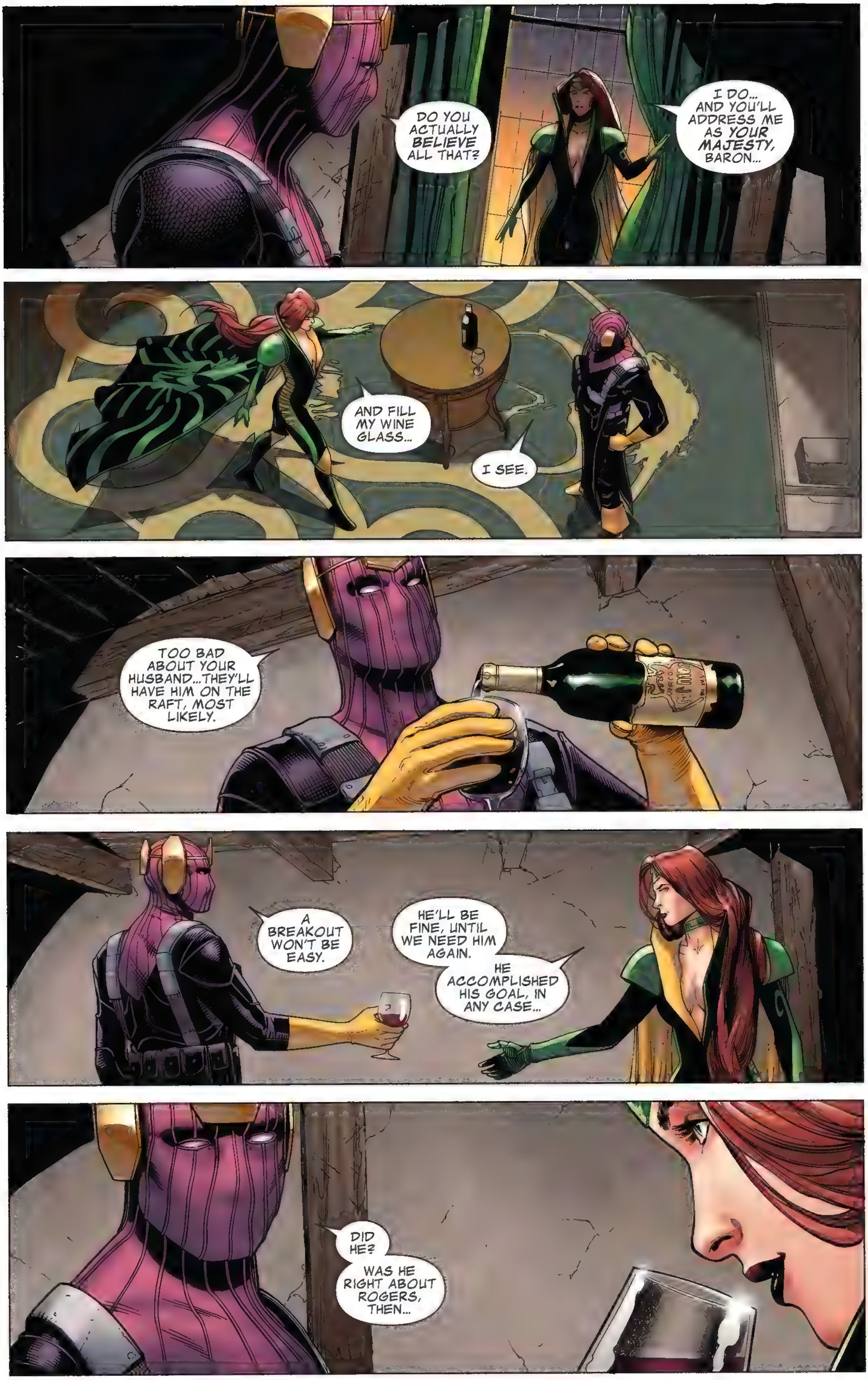

ANY SIGN OF THE QUEEN BEE?
NOT SO FAR...I'VE GOT MY PEOPLE ON IT ALREADY...
...AND YOU'LL GET OUR **INTEL**...

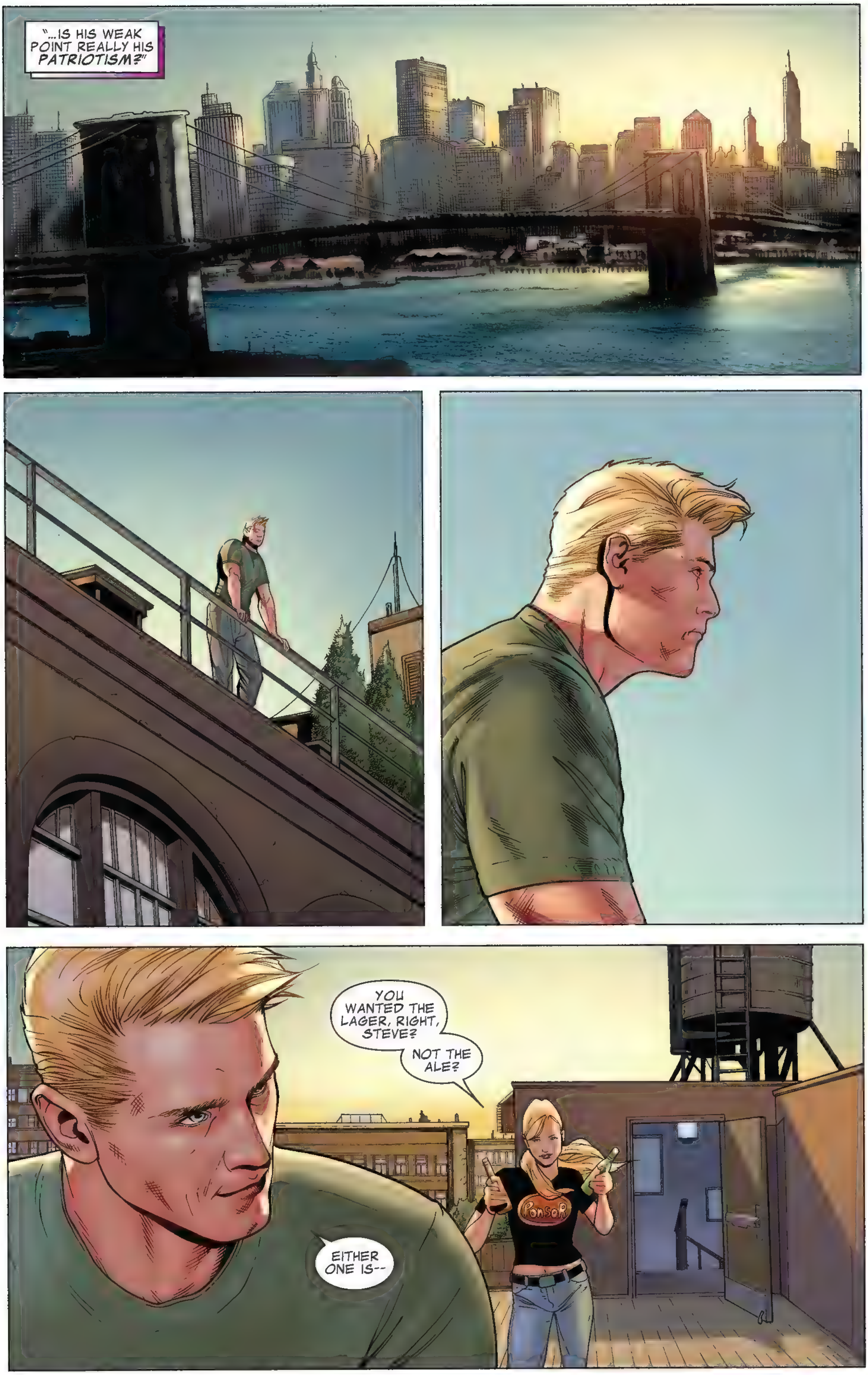

I'M **LITERALLY** SURE WE AIN'T SEEN THE LAST OF HER.
THINK SHE MIGHTA' YELLED THOSE **EXACT WORDS** WHEN SHE WAS RUNNIN' AWAY.

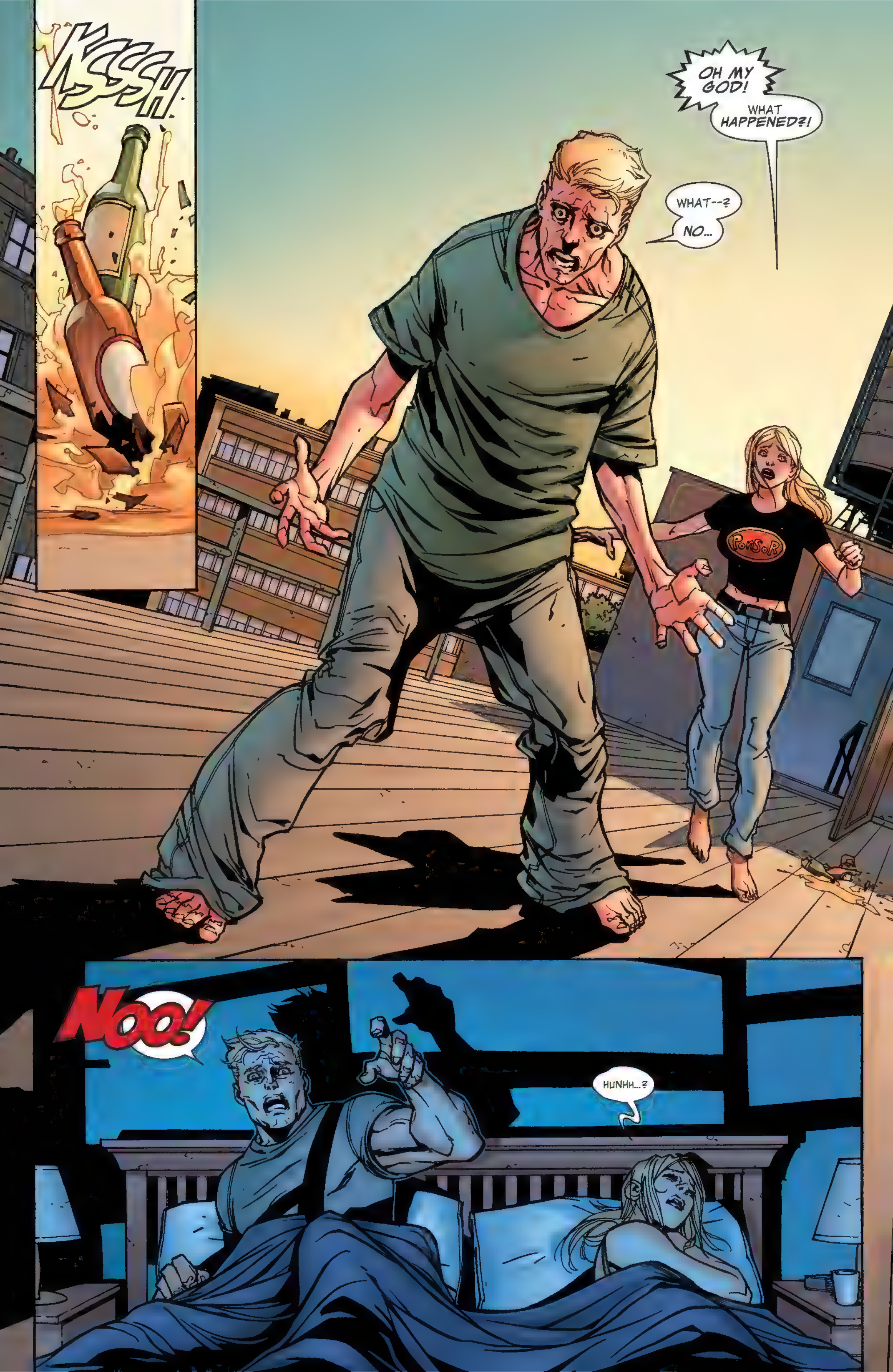

YEAH. THIS WAS JUST THE FIRST MOVE...I CAN FEEL IT.
THEY'RE THE **WORST** KIND OF ENEMY...

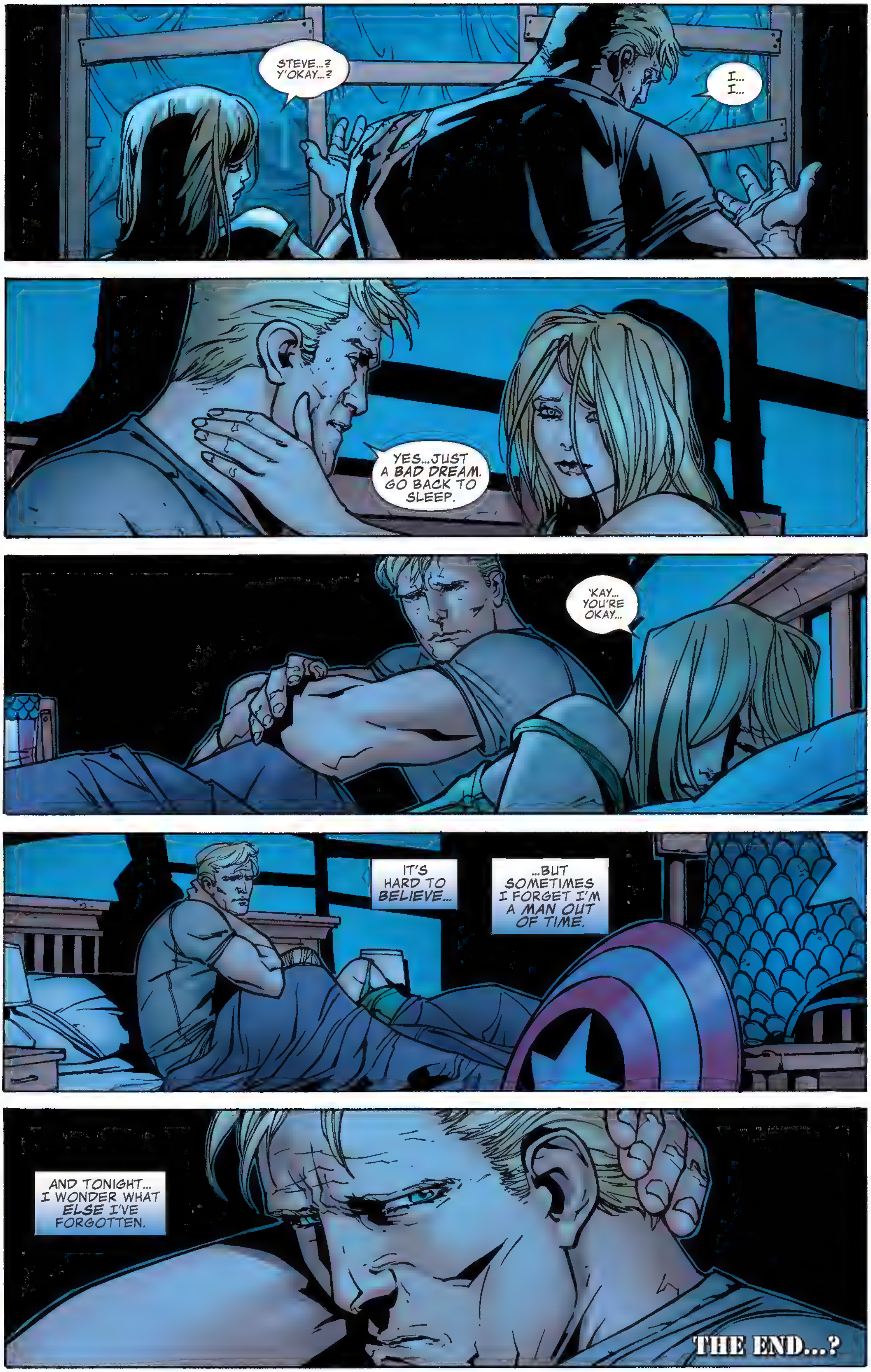

THEY THINK THEY'VE BEEN **BETRAYED**...
AND MAYBE THEY **HAVE**...


MEN AND WOMEN OF HYDRA, A *NEW DAY* IS DAWNING...
A DAY WHEN WE WILL SHOW THIS WORLD *EXACTLY* HOW WRONG THEY ARE...
WE WILL *NOT* BE LIKE THE HYDRA OF *OLD*...WE WILL NOT STIR CHAOS AND DESTRUCTION FOR *NO* PURPOSE...
BECAUSE WE ARE *RIGHT*, AND THEY ARE *WRONG*...
...AND I WILL LEAD YOU TO A *VICTORY* UNLIKE ANYTHING YOU'VE EVER SEEN.
ALL HAIL HYDRA!
HAIL HYDRA!


DO YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE ALL THAT?
I DO... AND YOU'LL ADDRESS ME AS YOUR MAJESTY, BARON...
AND FILL MY WINE GLASS...
I SEE.
TOO BAD ABOUT YOUR HUSBAND...THEY'LL HAVE HIM ON THE RAFT, MOST LIKELY.
A BREAKOUT WON'T BE EASY.
HE'LL BE FINE, UNTIL WE NEED HIM AGAIN.
HE ACCOMPLISHED HIS GOAL, IN ANY CASE...
DID HE?
WAS HE RIGHT ABOUT ROGERS, THEN...


"...IS HIS WEAK POINT REALLY HIS *PATRIOTISM?*"
YOU WANTED THE LAGER, RIGHT, STEVE?
NOT THE ALE?
EITHER ONE IS--
PonsoR


KSSH
OH MY GOD!
WHAT HAPPENED?!
WHAT--?
NO...
NOO!
HUNHH...?


STEVE...? Y'OKAY...?
I... I...
YES...JUST A *BAD DREAM.* GO BACK TO SLEEP.
'KAY... YOU'RE OKAY...
IT'S HARD TO *BELIEVE...*
...BUT SOMETIMES I FORGET I'M A *MAN OUT OF TIME.*
AND TONIGHT... I WONDER WHAT *ELSE* I'VE FORGOTTEN.
THE END...?

MARVEL

6

BRUBAKER
DAVIS
FARMER
MARTIN

CAPTAIN AMERICA

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DURING THE DARK DAYS OF THE EARLY 1940S, A COVERT MILITARY EXPERIMENT TURNED STEVE ROGERS INTO AMERICA'S FIRST SUPER-SOLDIER, CAPTAIN AMERICA.

THROUGHOUT THE WAR, CAP AND HIS PARTNER BUCKY FOUGHT ALONGSIDE OUT INFANTRY AND WITH A GROUP OF HEROES KNOWN AS THE INVADERS. IN THE CLOSING MONTHS OF WWII, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WERE BOTH PRESUMED DEAD IN AN EXPLOSION OVER THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

DECADES LATER, A FIGURE WAS FOUND TRAPPED IN ICE, AND CAPTAIN AMERICA WAS REVIVED. HAVING SLEPT OVER THROUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE 20TH CENTURY, STEVE ROGERS AWAKENED TO A WORLD HE NEVER IMAGINED. A WORLD WHERE WAR HAD MOVED FROM THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE CITY STREETS...A WORLD IN DIRE NEED OF...

CAPTAIN AMERICA

POWERLESS PART 1

IN 1944, WHILE PURSUING MEMBERS OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION HYDRA, AN ALLIED OPERATIVE KNOWN AS CODENAME BRAVO WAS LOST IN AN EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL DREAM WORLD, THE LAND OF NOWHERE. IN THE PRESENT, BRAVO HAS RETURNED HOME AND IS IN LEAGUE WITH A NEWER AND DEADLIER BRANCH OF HYDRA, LED BY HIS WIFE, THE QUEEN HYDRA. AFTER CAPTAIN AMERICA FOILED THEIR PLAN TO REMOLD THE ENTIRE WORLD USING THE LAND OF NOWHERE, BRAVO WAS INCARCERATED WHILE THE QUEEN REMAINED AT LARGE, BIDING HER TIME WITH HER BURGEONING TERROR CELL. DESPITE HIS VICTORY OVER BRAVO, STEVE ROGERS WASN'T RESTING EASY. IN FACT, HIS DREAMS ALMOST SEEMED...REAL.

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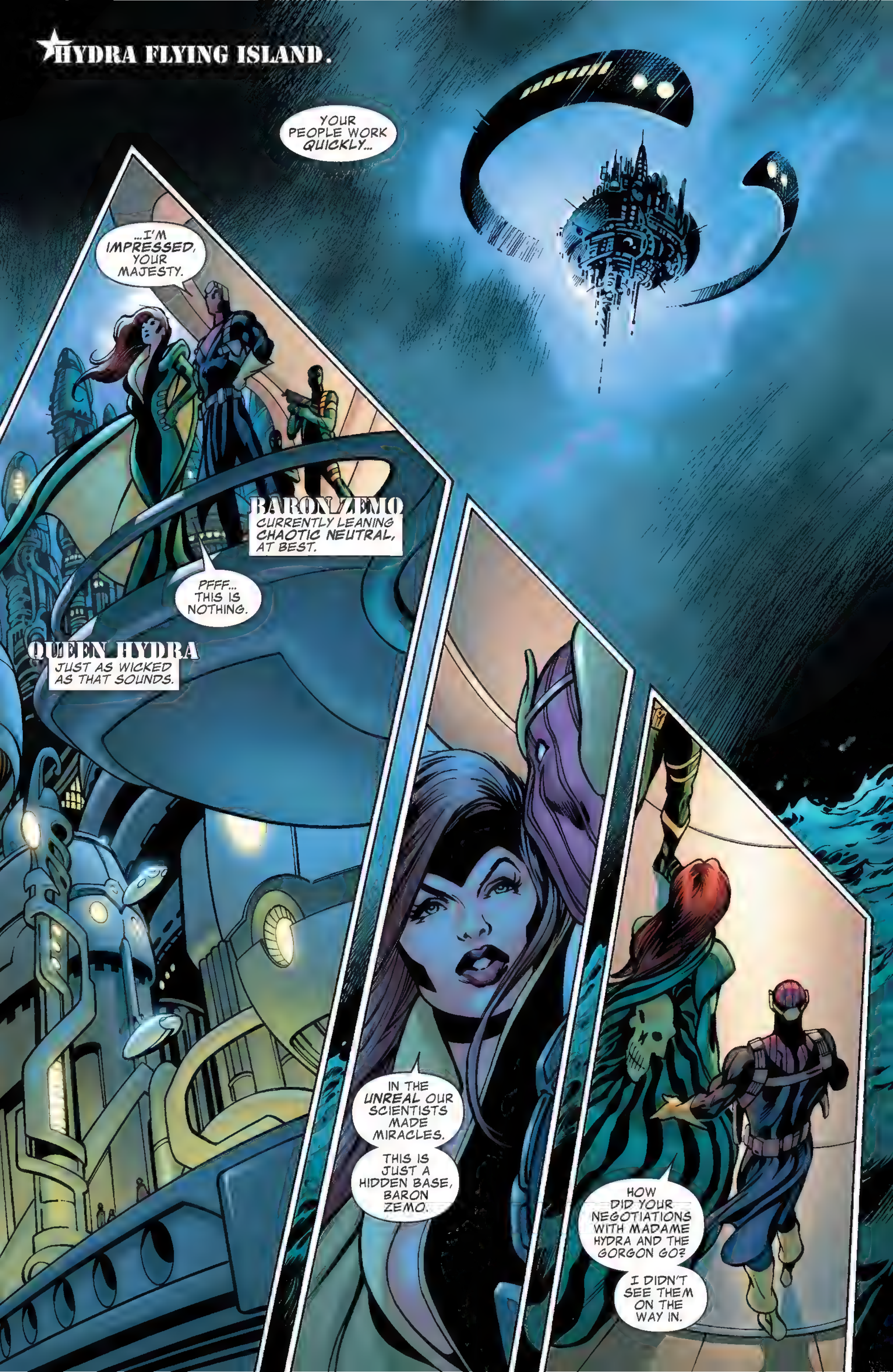
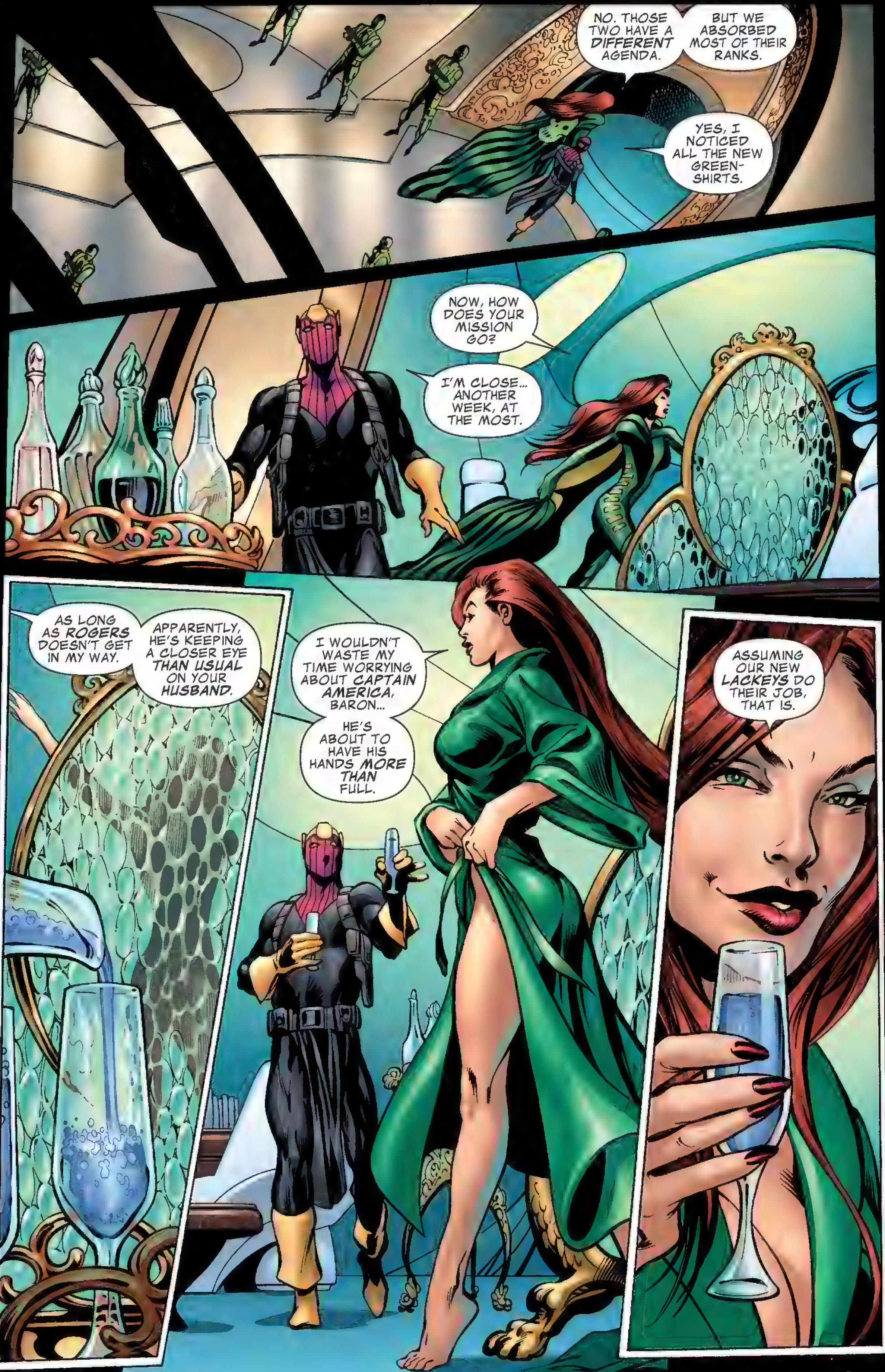
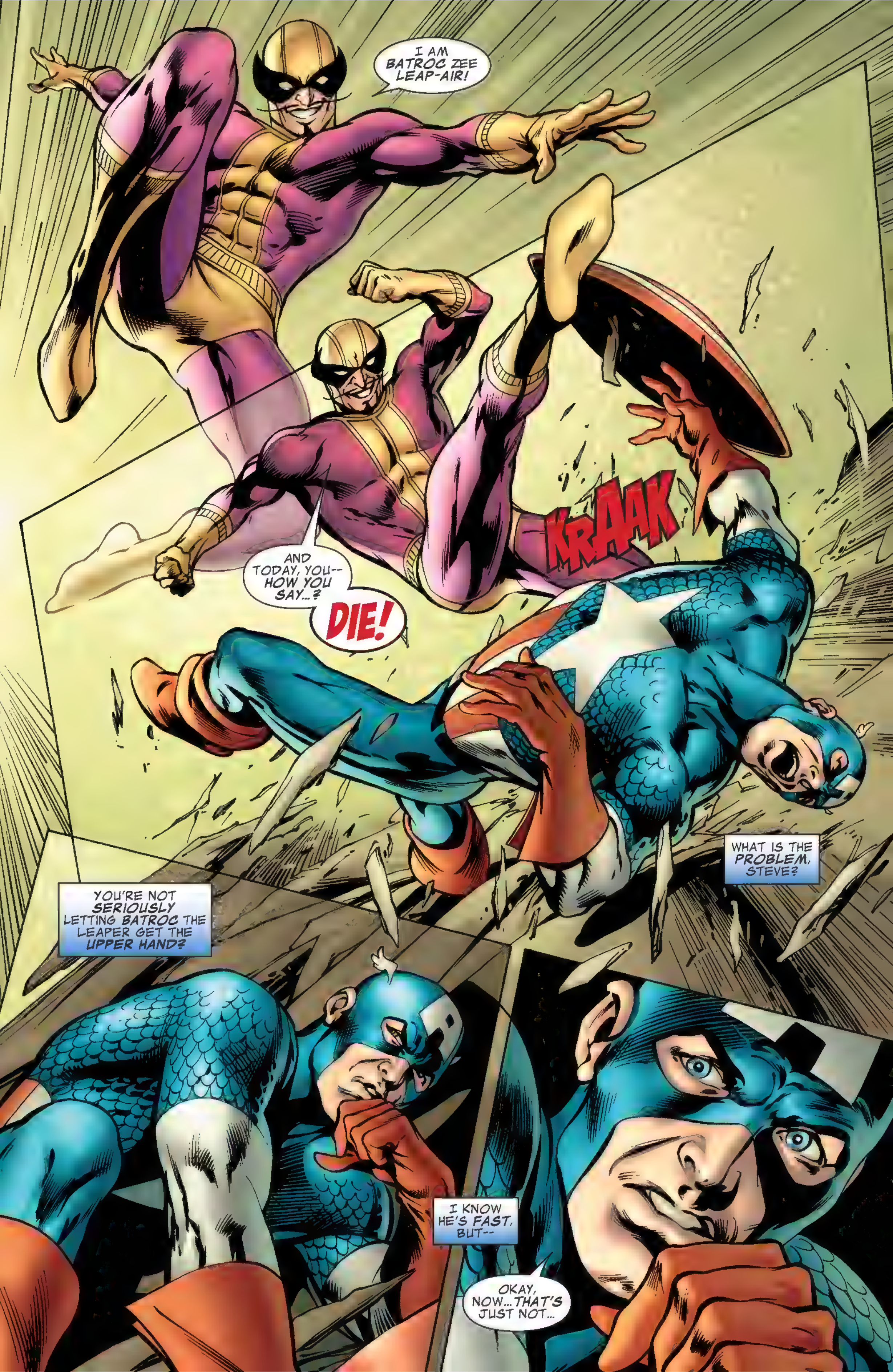
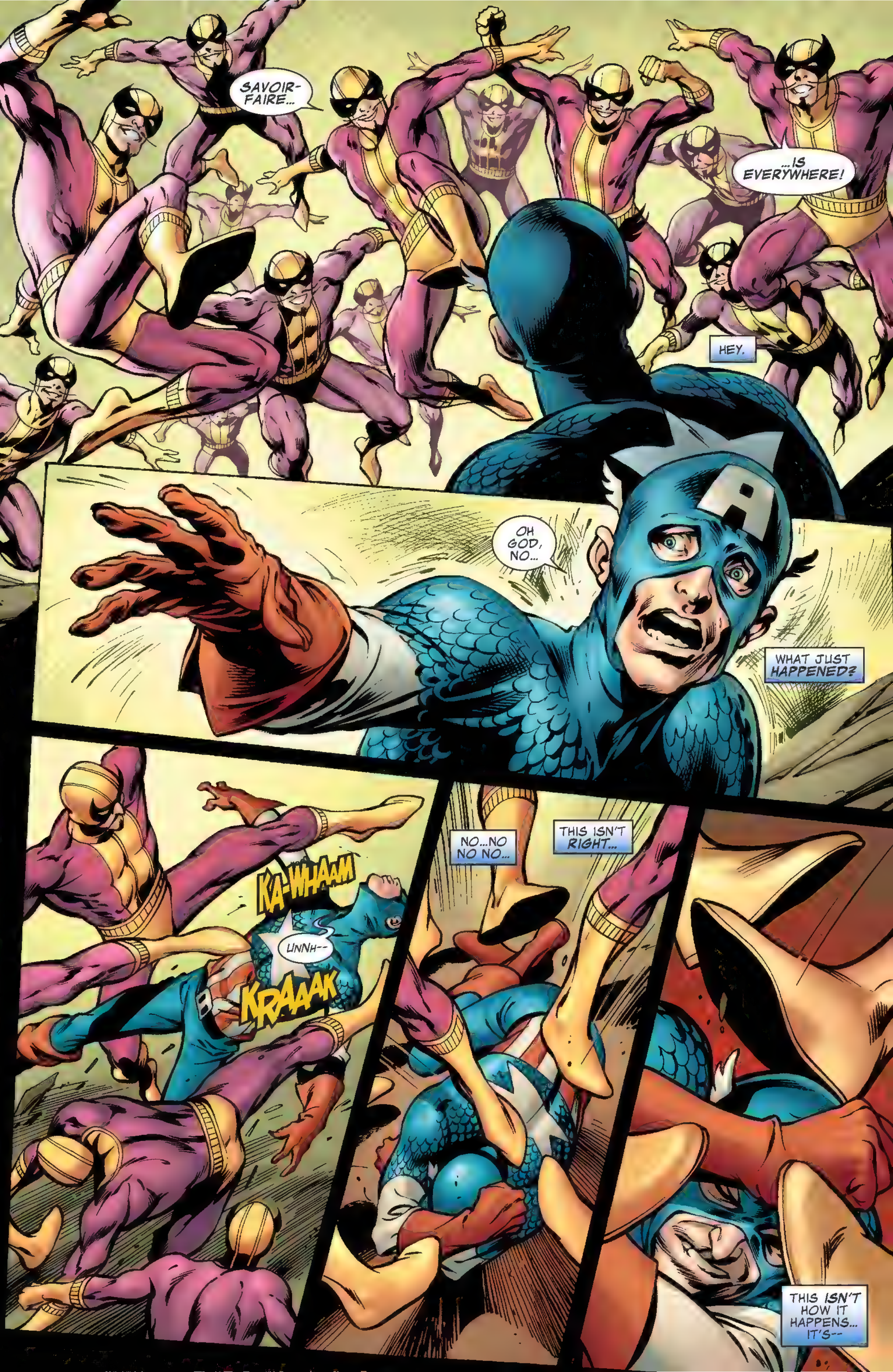
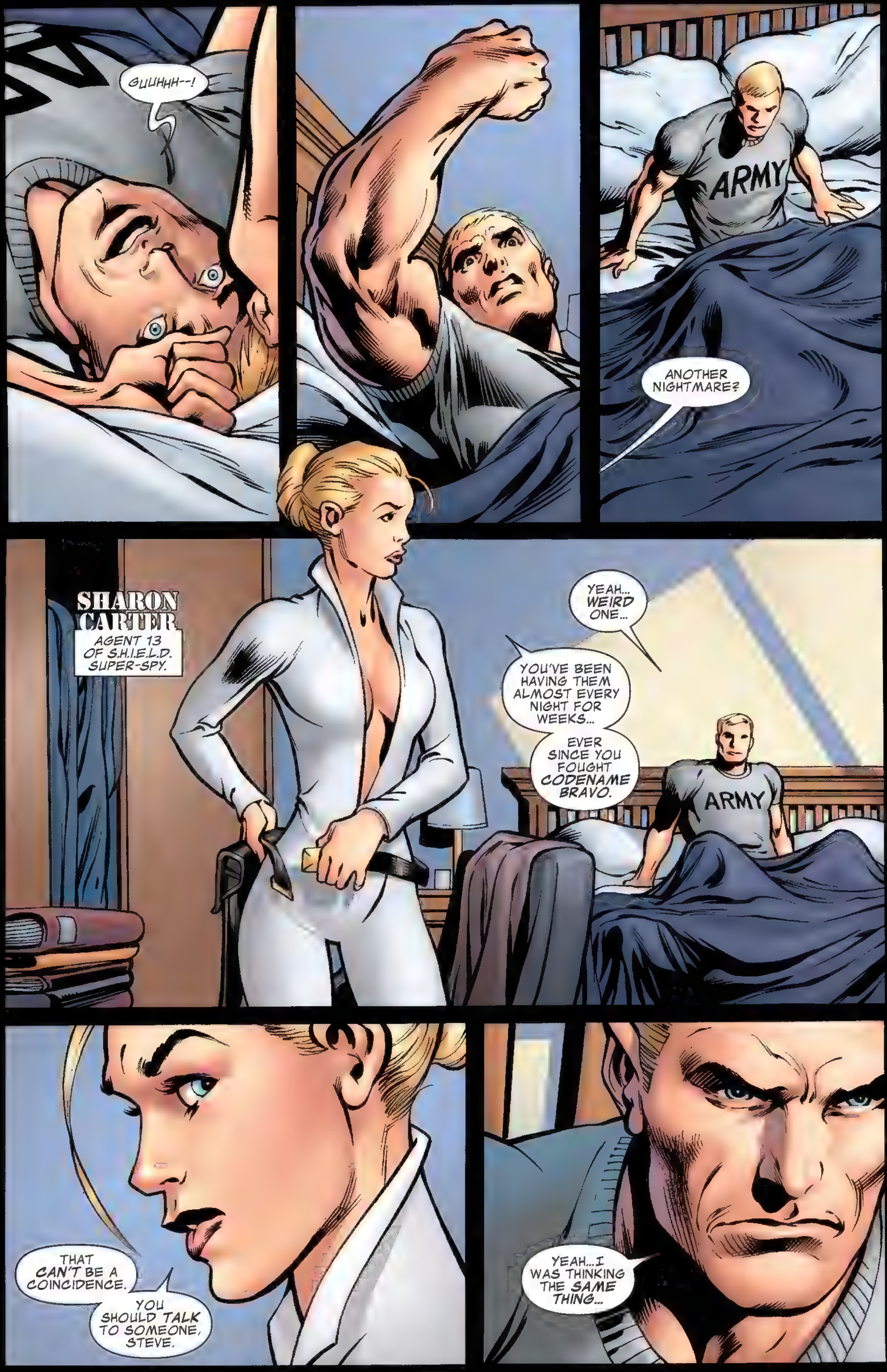
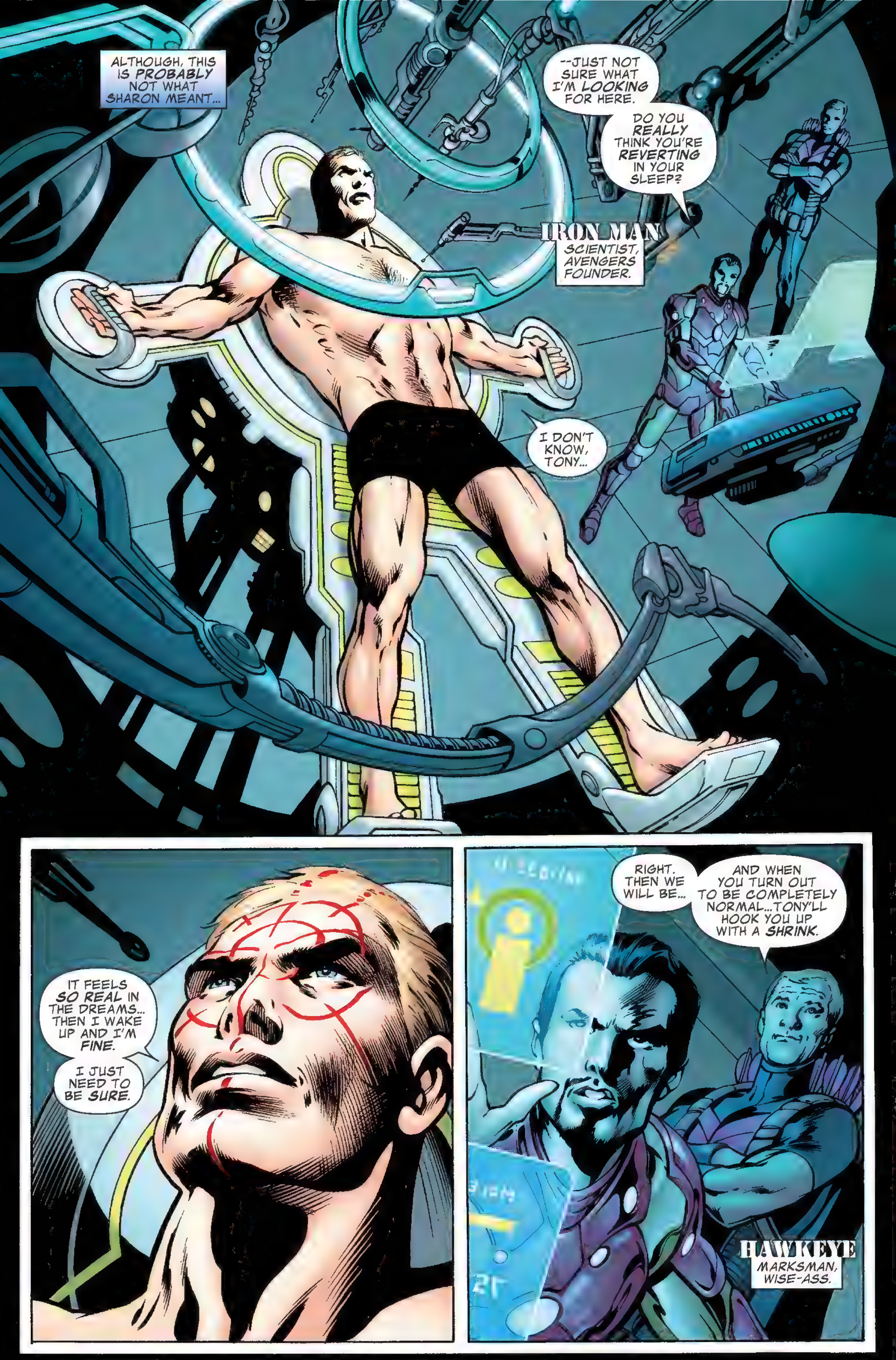

HYDRA FLYING ISLAND.
YOUR PEOPLE WORK QUICKLY...
...I'M IMPRESSED, YOUR MAJESTY.
BARON ZEMO
CURRENTLY LEANING CHAOTIC NEUTRAL, AT BEST.
PFFF... THIS IS NOTHING.
QUEEN HYDRA
JUST AS WICKED AS THAT SOUNDS.
IN THE UNREAL OUR SCIENTISTS MADE MIRACLES.
THIS IS JUST A HIDDEN BASE, BARON ZEMO.
HOW DID YOUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH MADAME HYDRA AND THE GORGON GO?
I DIDN'T SEE THEM ON THE WAY IN.

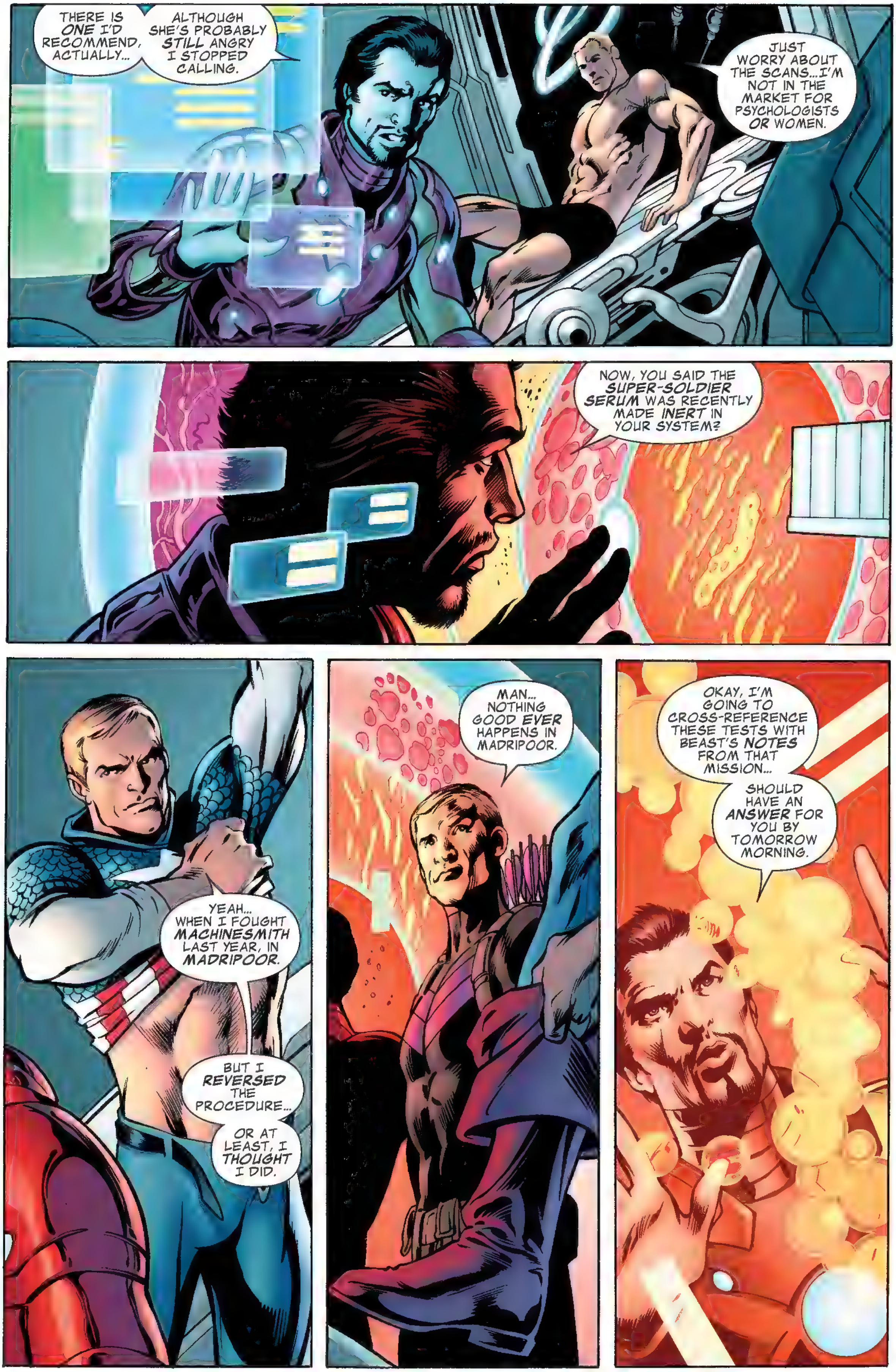

NO. THOSE TWO HAVE A *DIFFERENT* AGENDA.
BUT WE ABSORBED MOST OF THEIR RANKS.
YES, I NOTICED ALL THE NEW GREEN-SHIRTS.
NOW, HOW DOES YOUR MISSION GO?
I'M CLOSE... ANOTHER WEEK, AT THE MOST.
AS LONG AS *ROGERS* DOESN'T GET IN MY WAY.
APPARENTLY, HE'S KEEPING A CLOSER EYE *THAN USUAL* ON YOUR *HUSBAND*.
I WOULDN'T WASTE MY TIME WORRYING ABOUT *CAPTAIN AMERICA*, BARON...
HE'S ABOUT TO HAVE HIS HANDS *MORE THAN* FULL.
ASSUMING OUR NEW *LACKEYS* DO THEIR JOB, THAT IS.

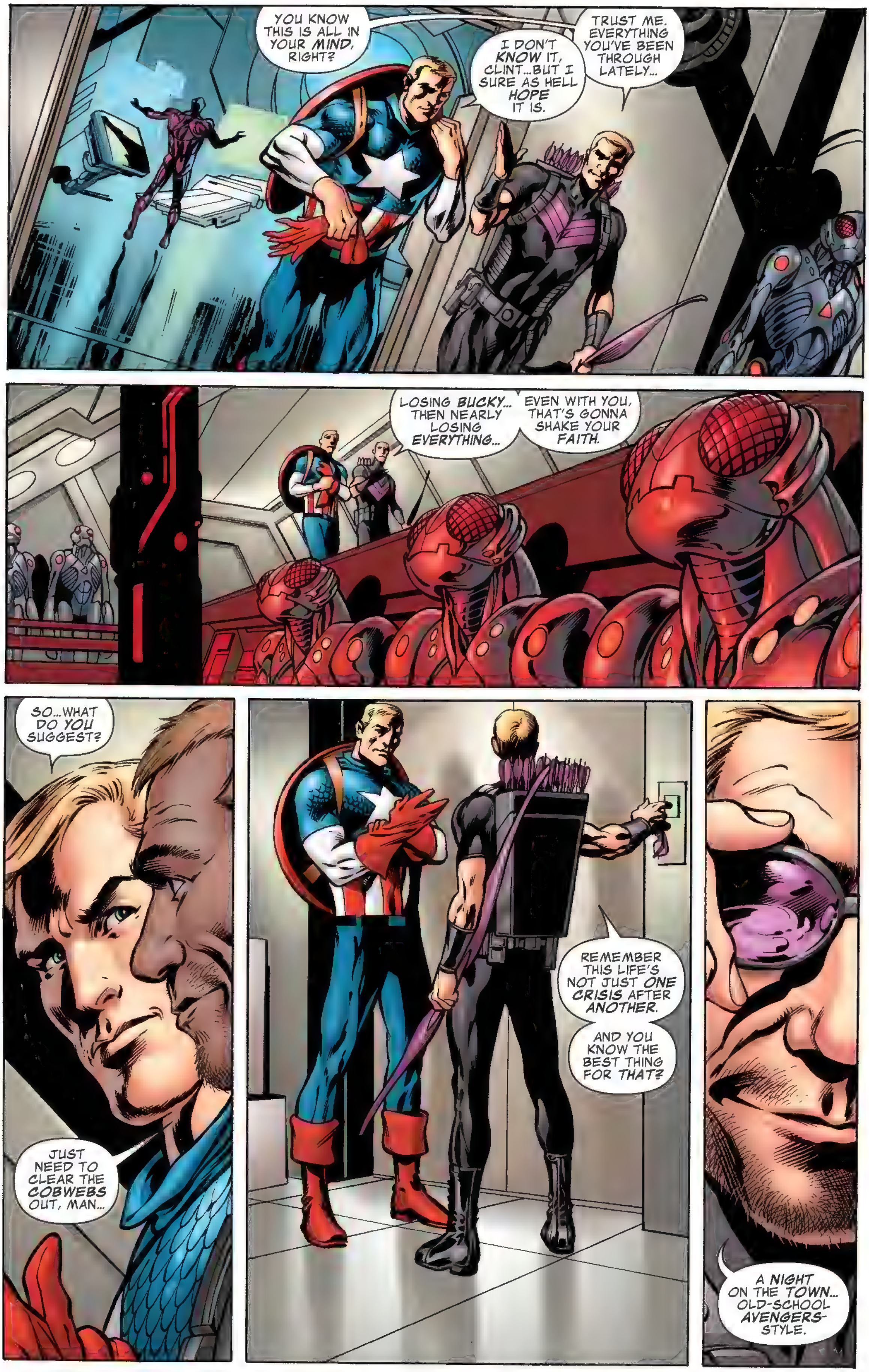

I AM BATROC ZEE LEAP-AIR!
AND TODAY, YOU-- HOW YOU SAY...?
DIE!
KRAAK
WHAT IS THE PROBLEM, STEVE?
YOU'RE NOT SERIOUSLY LETTING BATROC THE LEAPER GET THE UPPER HAND?
I KNOW HE'S FAST, BUT--
OKAY, NOW... THAT'S JUST NOT...

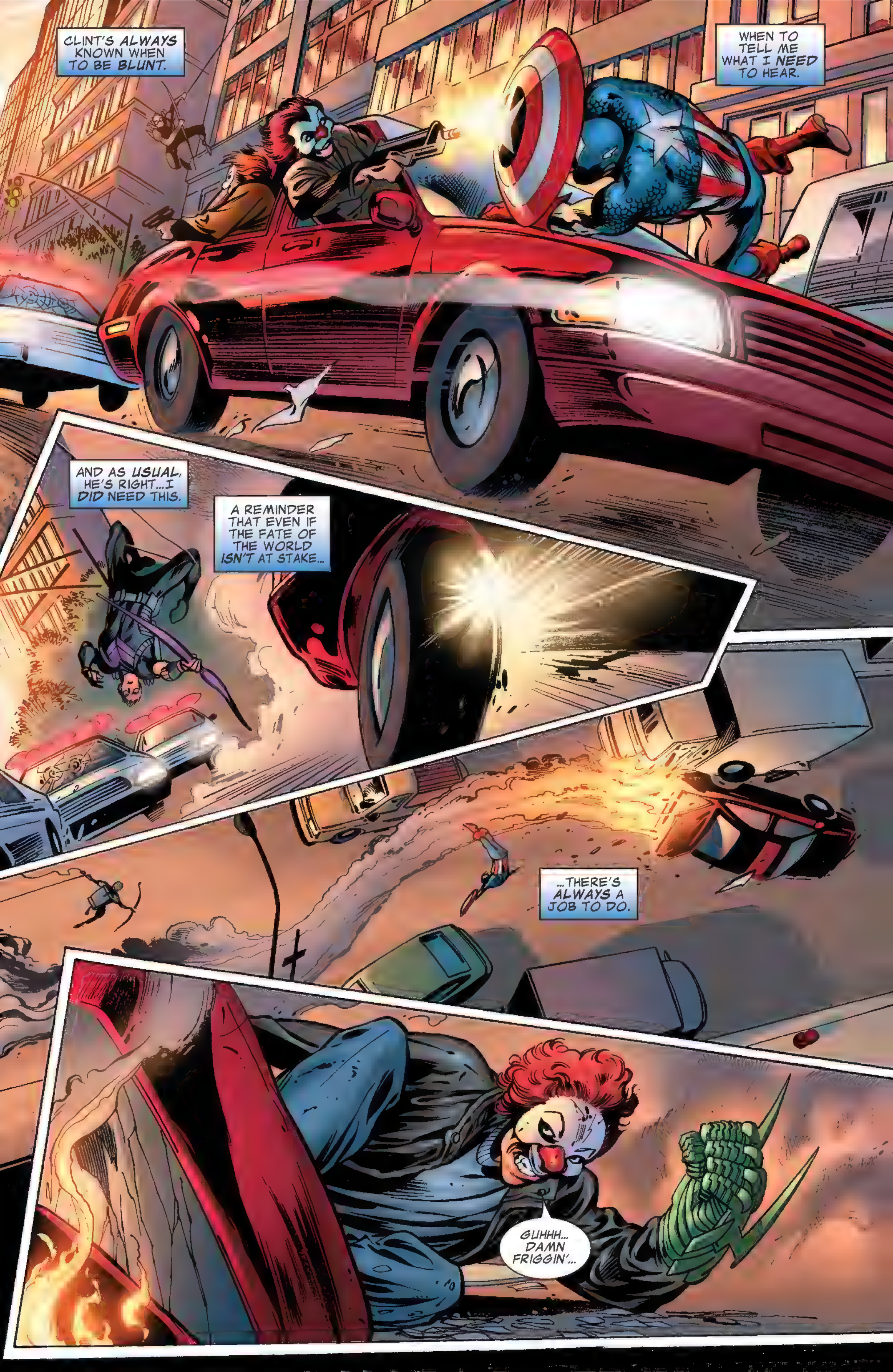

SAVOIR-FAIRE...
...IS EVERYWHERE!
HEY.
OH GOD, NO...
WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
KA-WHAAM
UNNH--
KRAAAK
NO...NO NO NO...
THIS ISN'T RIGHT...
THIS ISN'T HOW IT HAPPENS... IT'S--

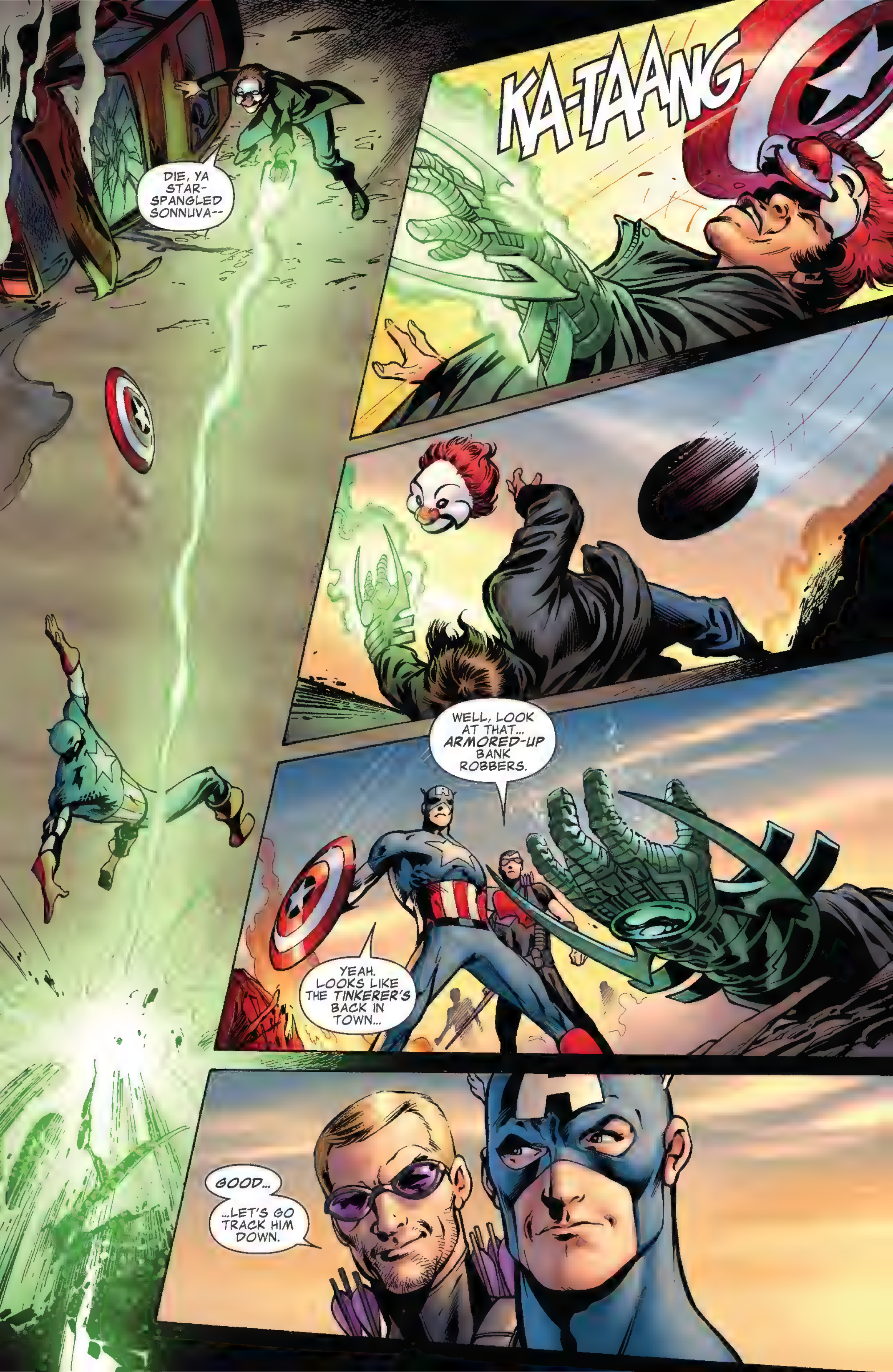

GUUHHH--!
ARMY
ANOTHER NIGHTMARE?
SHARON CARTER
AGENT 13 OF S.H.I.E.L.D. SUPER-SPY.
YEAH... WEIRD ONE...
YOU'VE BEEN HAVING THEM ALMOST EVERY NIGHT FOR WEEKS...
EVER SINCE YOU FOUGHT CODENAME BRAVO.
ARMY
THAT CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE.
YOU SHOULD TALK TO SOMEONE, STEVE.
YEAH... I WAS THINKING THE SAME THING...

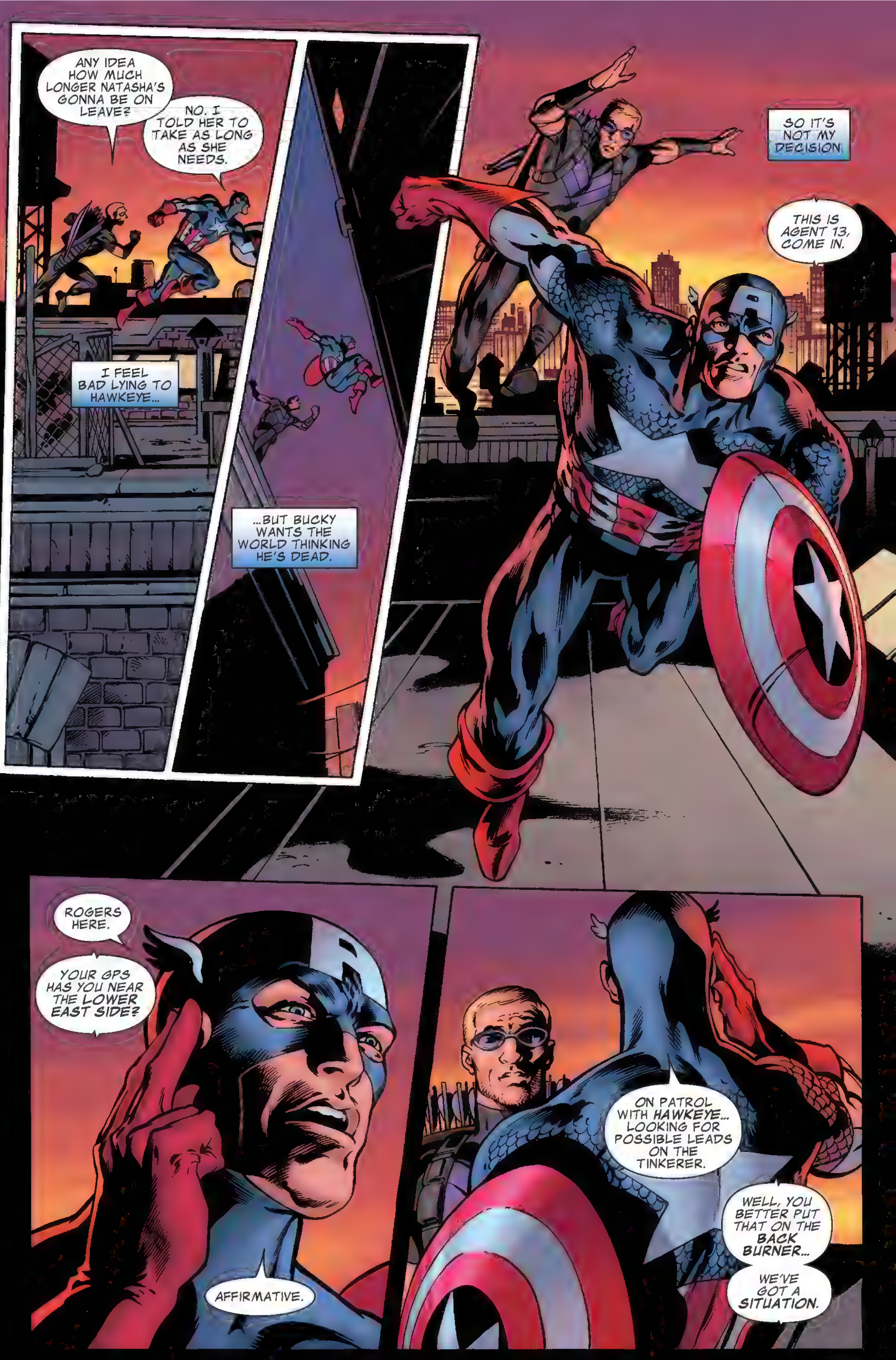

ALTHOUGH, THIS IS *PROBABLY* NOT WHAT SHARON MEANT...
--JUST NOT SURE WHAT I'M *LOOKING* FOR HERE.
DO YOU *REALLY* THINK YOU'RE *REVERTING* IN YOUR SLEEP?
IRON MAN
SCIENTIST, AVENGERS FOUNDER.
I DON'T KNOW, TONY...
IT FEELS *SO REAL* IN THE DREAMS... THEN I WAKE UP AND I'M *FINE*.
I JUST NEED TO BE *SURE*.
RIGHT. THEN WE WILL BE...
AND WHEN YOU TURN OUT TO BE COMPLETELY NORMAL...TONY'LL HOOK YOU UP WITH A *SHRINK*.
HAWKEYE
MARKSMAN, WISE-ASS.

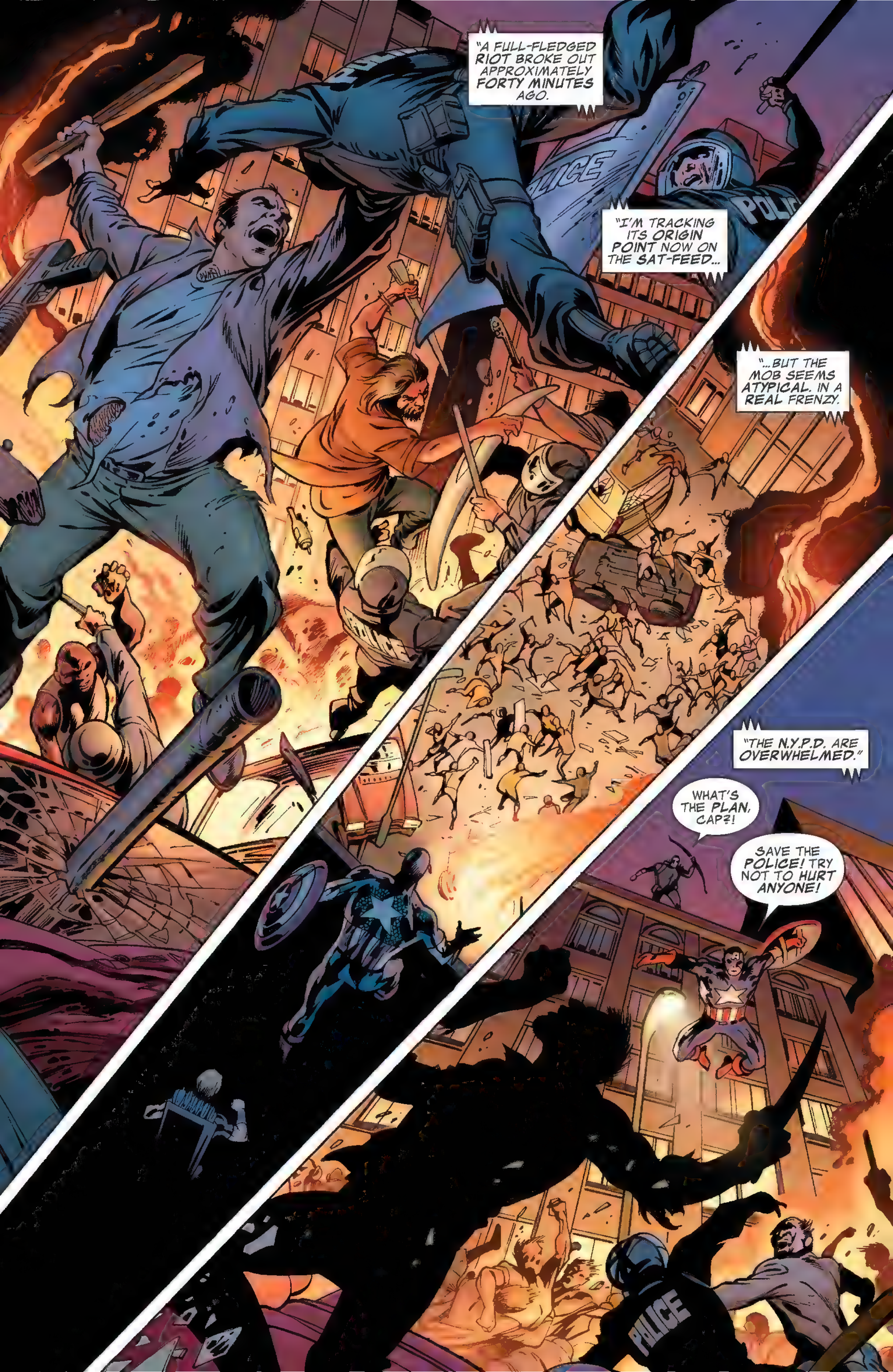

THERE IS ONE I'D RECOMMEND, ACTUALLY...
ALTHOUGH SHE'S PROBABLY STILL ANGRY I STOPPED CALLING.
JUST WORRY ABOUT THE SCANS...I'M NOT IN THE MARKET FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS OR WOMEN.
NOW, YOU SAID THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM WAS RECENTLY MADE INERT IN YOUR SYSTEM?
YEAH... WHEN I FOUGHT MACHINESMITH LAST YEAR, IN MADRIPOOR.
BUT I REVERSED THE PROCEDURE...
OR AT LEAST, I THOUGHT I DID.
MAN... NOTHING GOOD EVER HAPPENS IN MADRIPOOR.
OKAY, I'M GOING TO CROSS-REFERENCE THESE TESTS WITH BEAST'S NOTES FROM THAT MISSION...
SHOULD HAVE AN ANSWER FOR YOU BY TOMORROW MORNING.

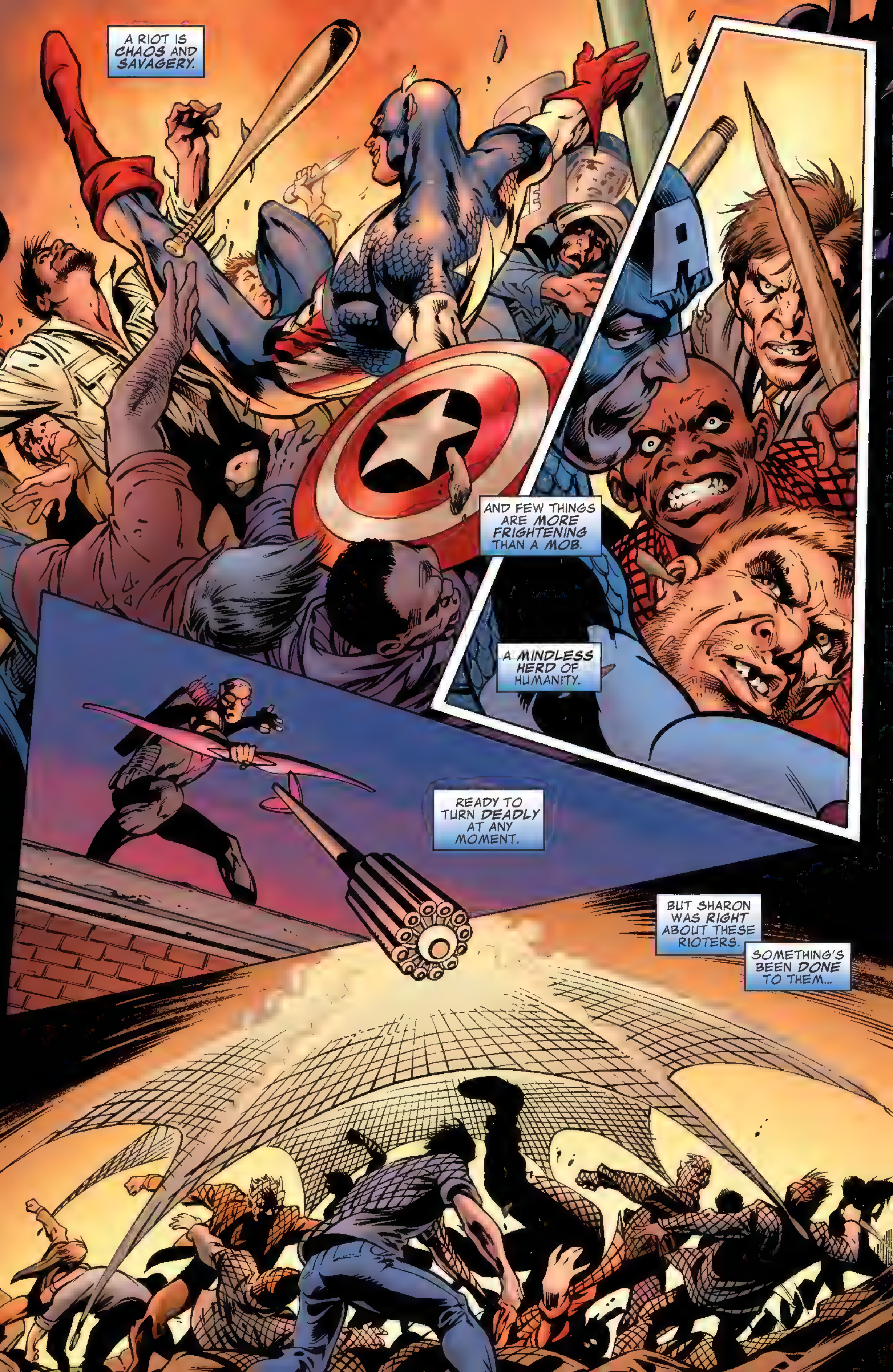

YOU KNOW THIS IS ALL IN YOUR *MIND*, RIGHT?
I DON'T *KNOW* IT, CLINT...BUT I SURE AS HELL *HOPE* IT IS.
TRUST ME. EVERYTHING YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH LATELY...
LOSING *BUCKY*... THEN NEARLY LOSING *EVERYTHING*...
EVEN WITH YOU, THAT'S GONNA SHAKE YOUR *FAITH*.
SO...WHAT DO *YOU* SUGGEST?
JUST NEED TO CLEAR THE *COBWEBS* OUT, MAN...
REMEMBER THIS LIFE'S NOT JUST *ONE CRISIS* AFTER *ANOTHER*.
AND YOU KNOW THE BEST THING FOR *THAT*?
A *NIGHT* ON THE *TOWN*... OLD-SCHOOL *AVENGERS*-STYLE.

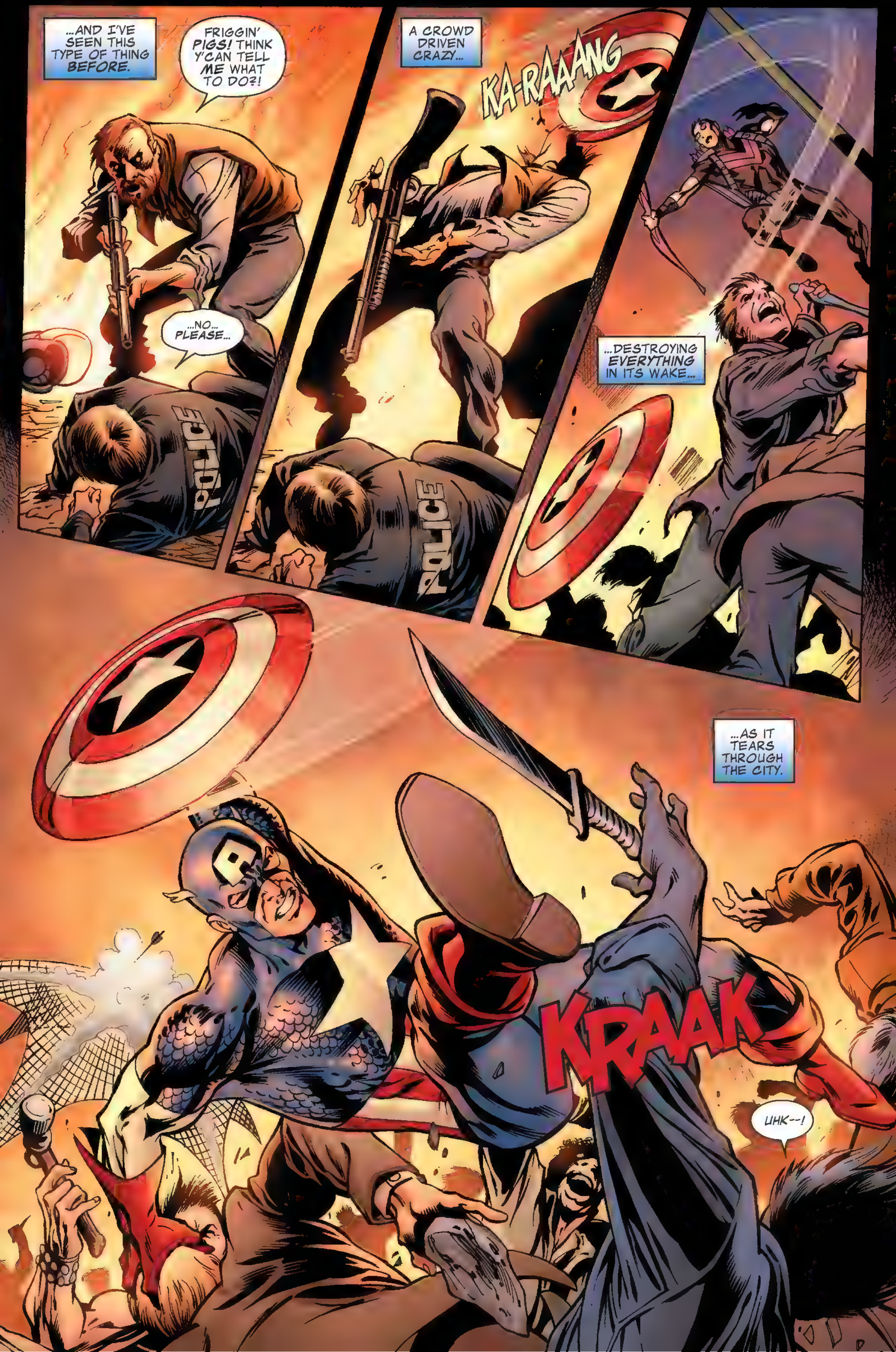

CLINT'S *ALWAYS* KNOWN WHEN TO BE *BLUNT*.
WHEN TO TELL ME WHAT I *NEED* TO HEAR.
AND AS *USUAL*, HE'S RIGHT...I *DID* NEED THIS.
A REMINDER THAT EVEN IF THE FATE OF THE WORLD *ISN'T* AT STAKE...
...THERE'S *ALWAYS* A JOB TO DO.
GUHHH... DAMN FRIGGIN'...

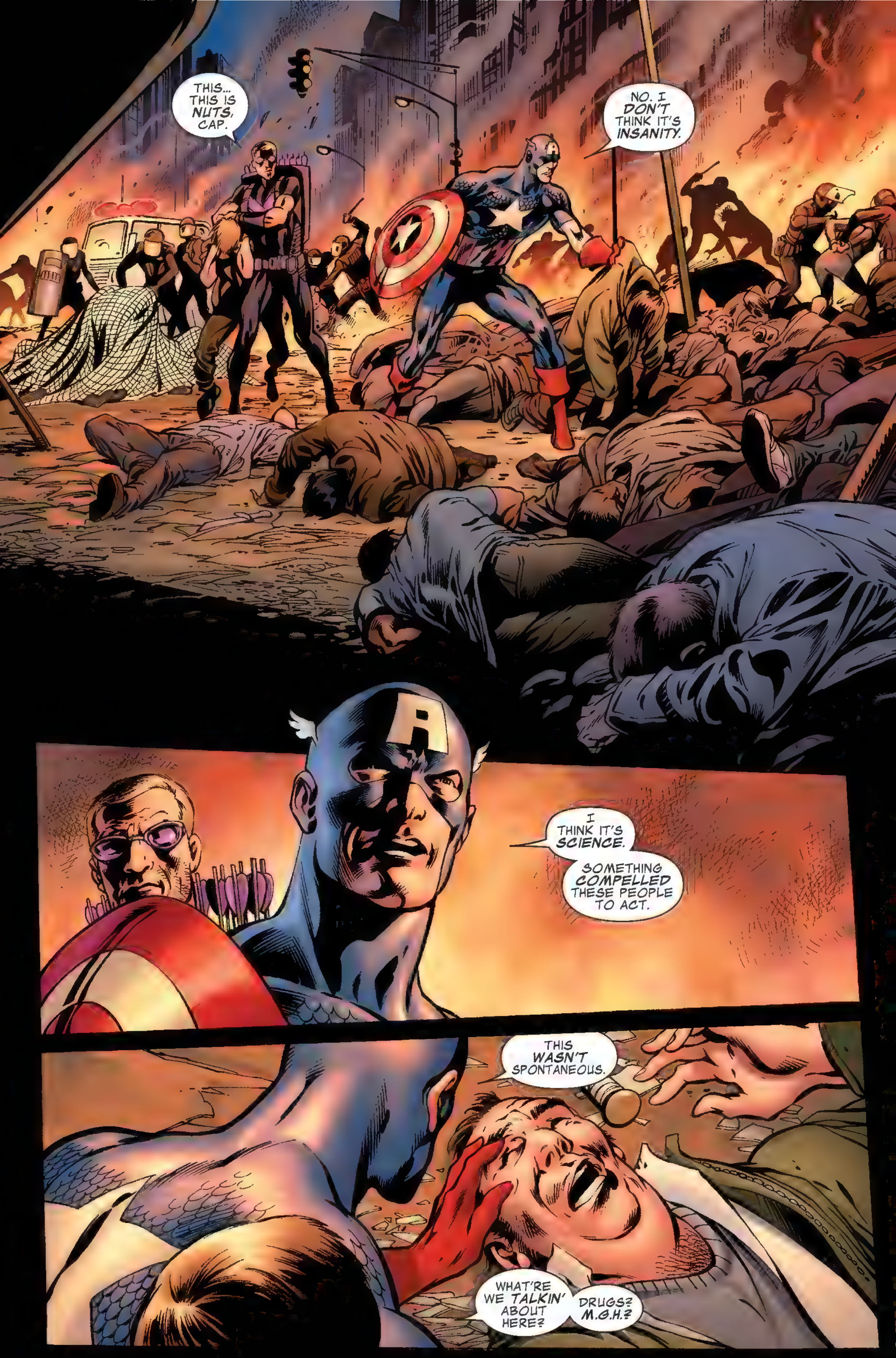

DIE, YA STAR-SPANGLED SONNUVA--
KA-TAANG
WELL, LOOK AT THAT... ARMORED-UP BANK ROBBERS.
YEAH. LOOKS LIKE THE TINKERER'S BACK IN TOWN...
GOOD...
...LET'S GO TRACK HIM DOWN.

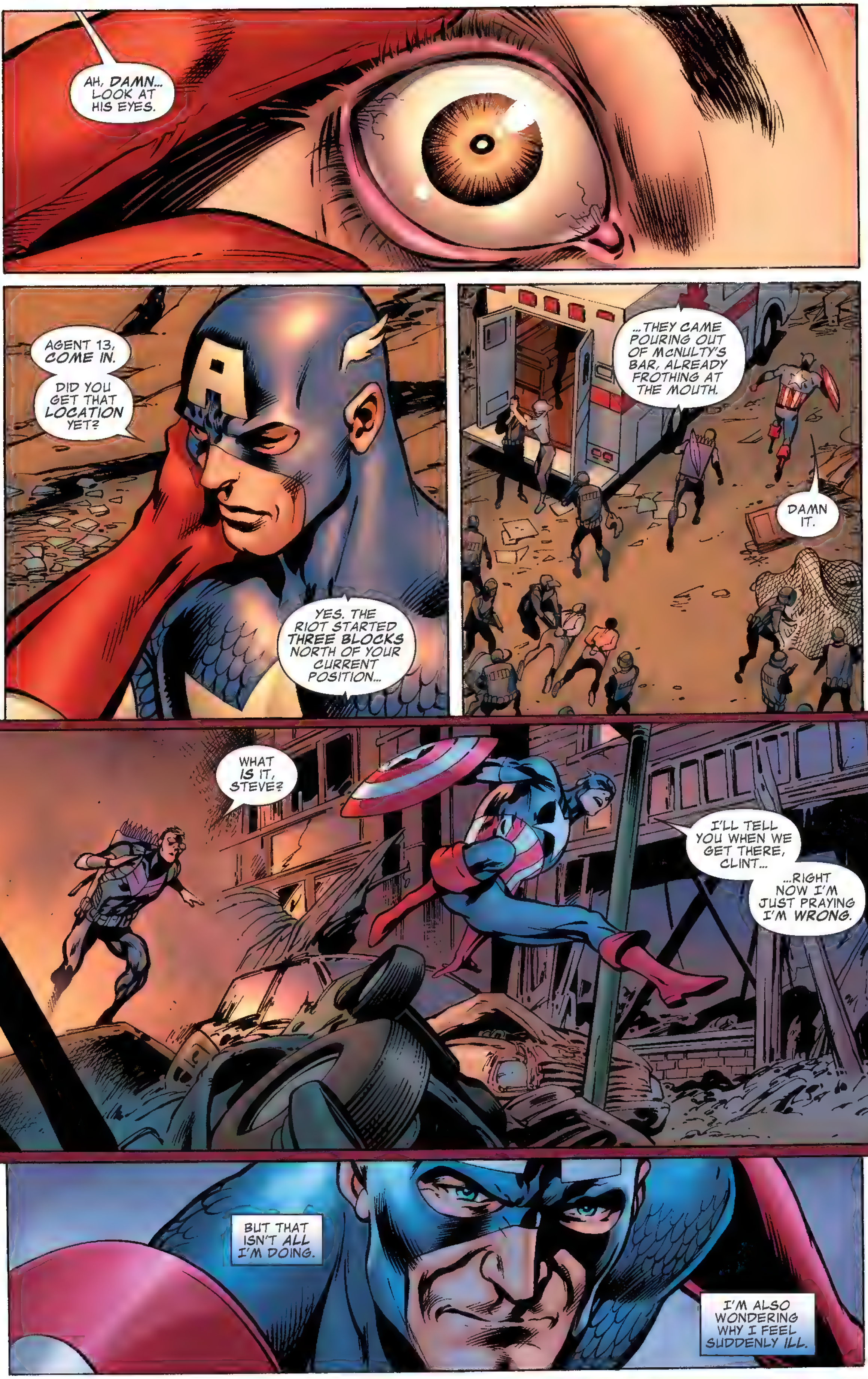

ANY IDEA HOW MUCH LONGER NATASHA'S GONNA BE ON LEAVE?
NO. I TOLD HER TO TAKE AS LONG AS SHE NEEDS.
I FEEL BAD LYING TO HAWKEYE...
...BUT BUCKY WANTS THE WORLD THINKING HE'S DEAD.
SO IT'S NOT MY DECISION.
THIS IS AGENT 13, COME IN.
ROGERS HERE.
YOUR GPS HAS YOU NEAR THE **LOWER EAST SIDE**?
AFFIRMATIVE.
ON PATROL WITH **HAWKEYE**... LOOKING FOR POSSIBLE LEADS ON THE TINKERER.
WELL, YOU BETTER PUT THAT ON THE **BACK BURNER**...
WE'VE GOT A **SITUATION**.

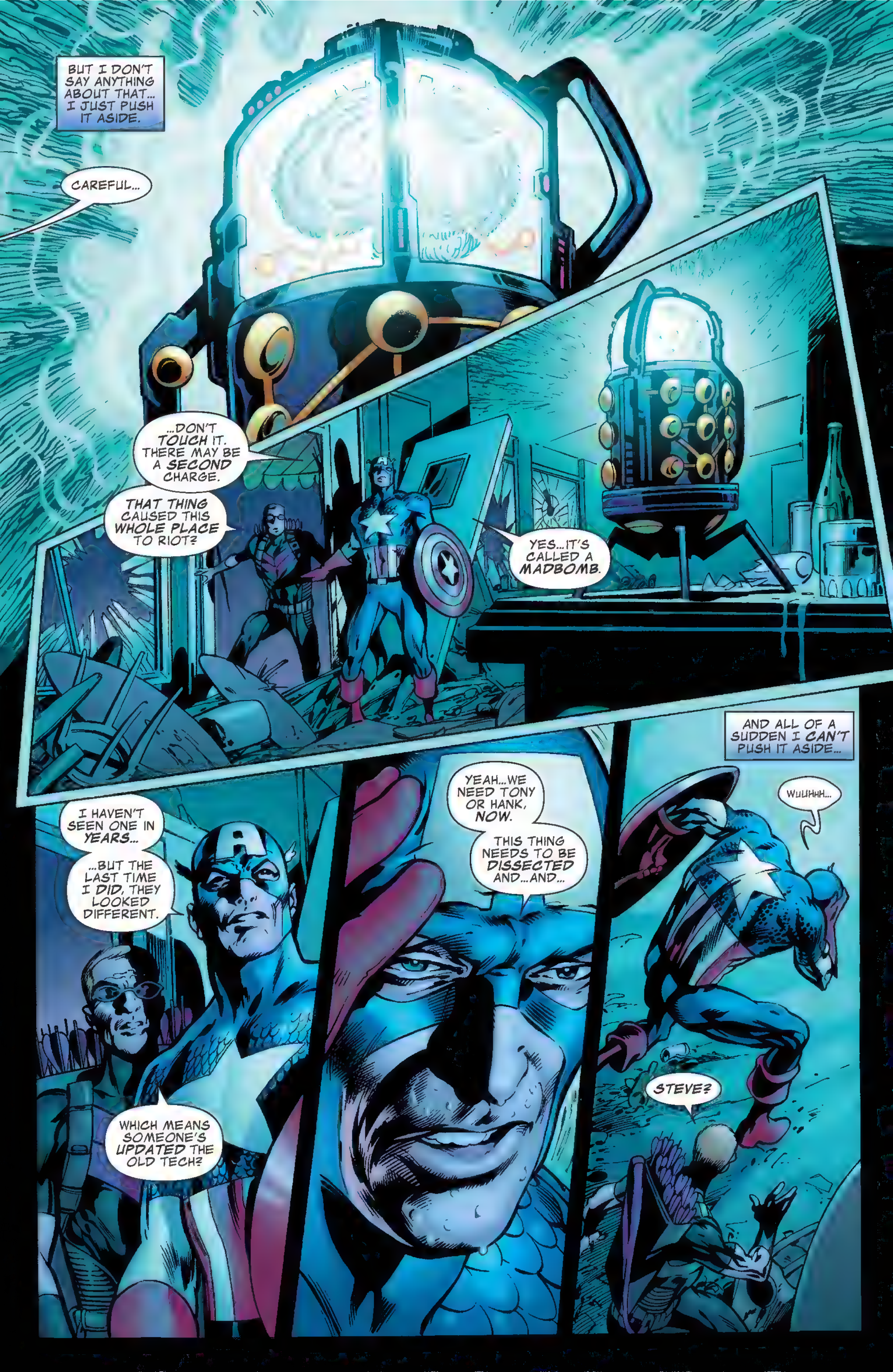

"A FULL-FLEDGED RIOT BROKE OUT APPROXIMATELY FORTY MINUTES AGO.
POLICE
POLICE
"I'M TRACKING ITS ORIGIN POINT NOW ON THE SAT-FEED...
"...BUT THE MOB SEEMS ATYPICAL. IN A REAL FRENZY.
POLICE
"THE N.Y.P.D. ARE OVERWHELMED."
WHAT'S THE PLAN, CAP?!
SAVE THE POLICE! TRY NOT TO HURT ANYONE!
POLICE

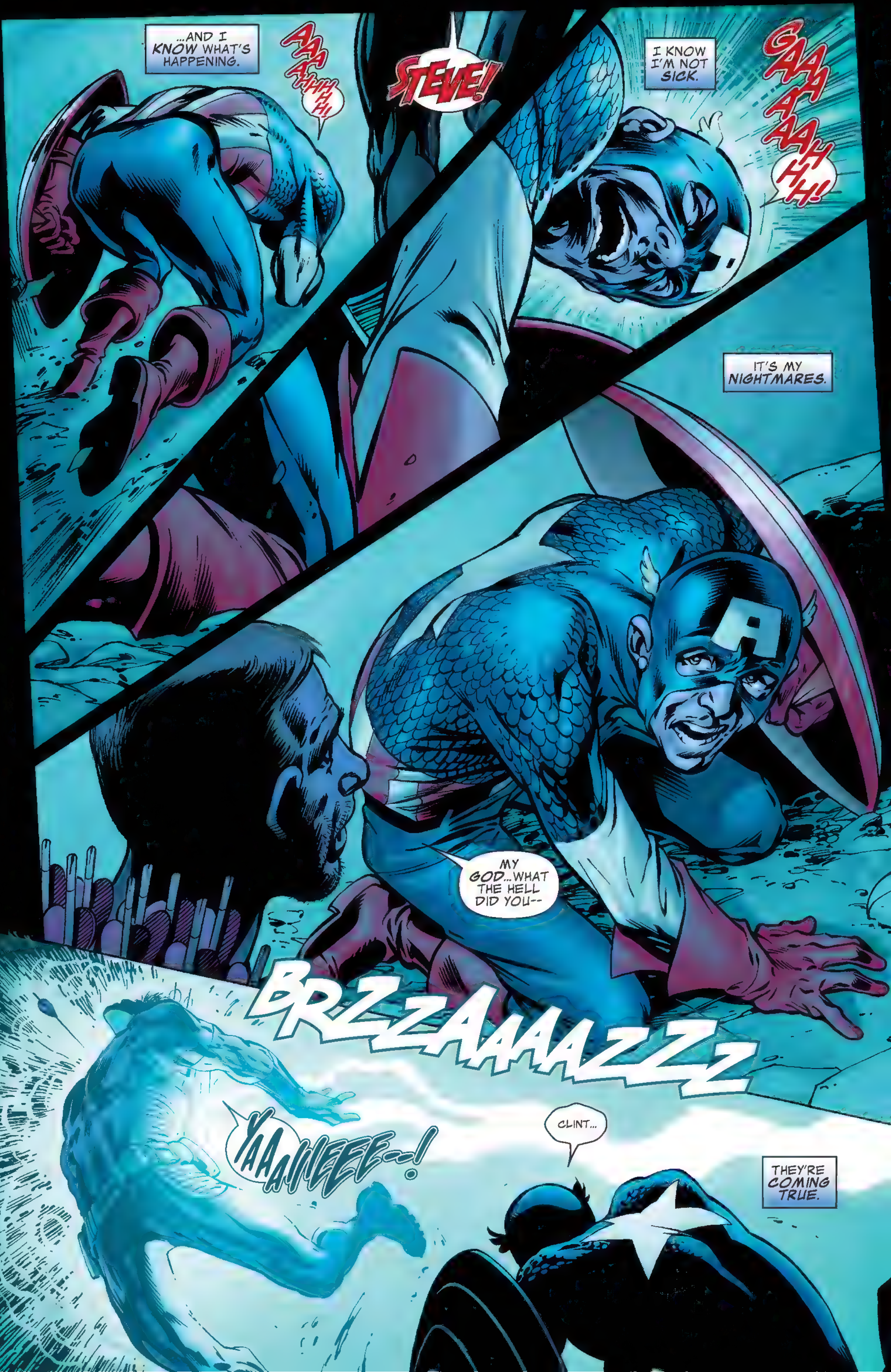

A RIOT IS CHAOS AND SAVAGERY.
AND FEW THINGS ARE MORE FRIGHTENING THAN A MOB.
A MINDLESS HERD OF HUMANITY.
READY TO TURN DEADLY AT ANY MOMENT.
BUT SHARON WAS RIGHT ABOUT THESE RIOTERS.
SOMETHING'S BEEN DONE TO THEM...

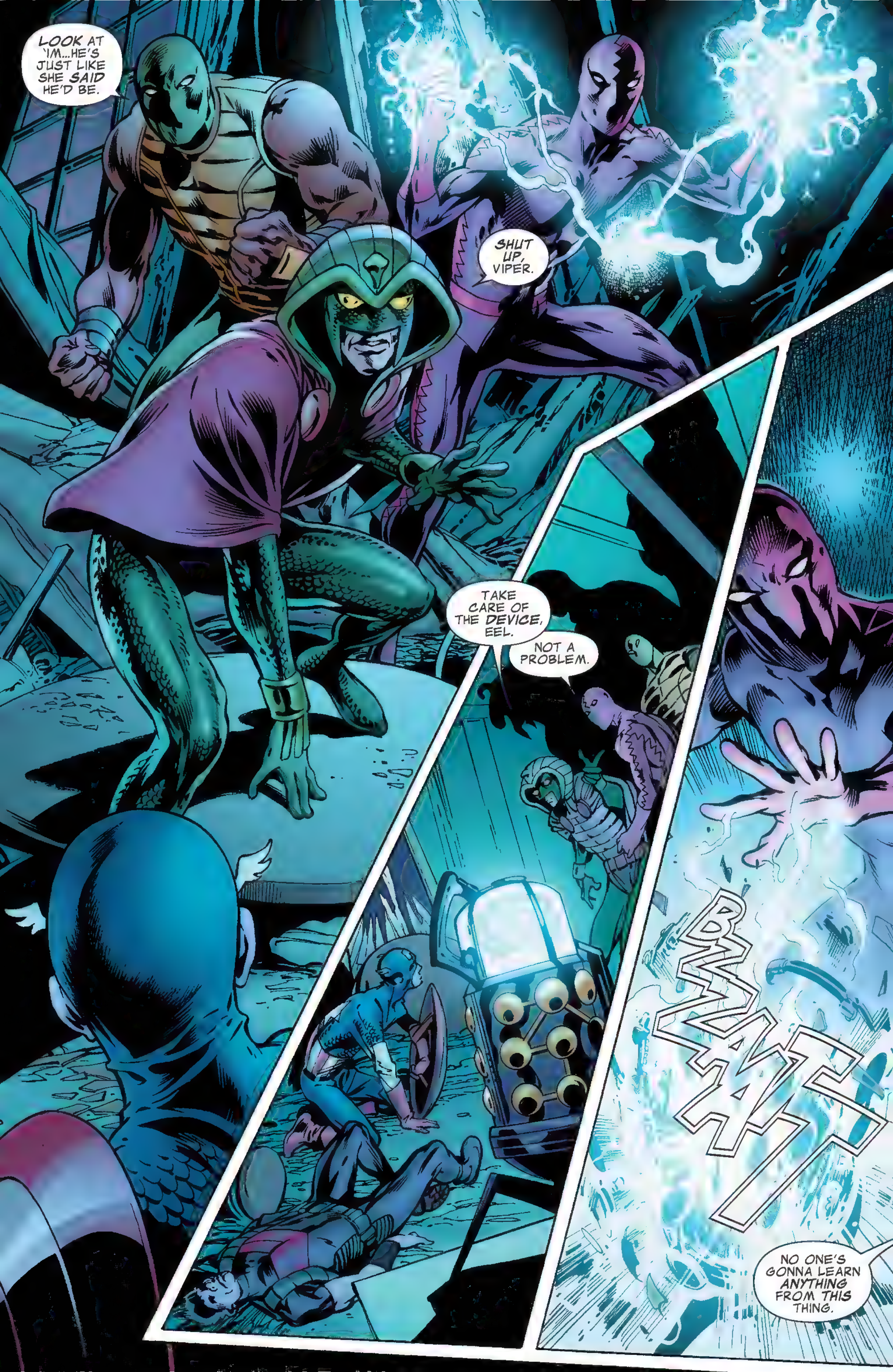

...AND I'VE SEEN THIS TYPE OF THING BEFORE.
FRIGGIN' PIGS! THINK Y'CAN TELL ME WHAT TO DO?!
...NO... PLEASE...
POLICE
A CROWD DRIVEN CRAZY...
KA-RAAANG
POLICE
...DESTROYING EVERYTHING IN ITS WAKE...
...AS IT TEARS THROUGH THE CITY.
KRAAK
UHK--!

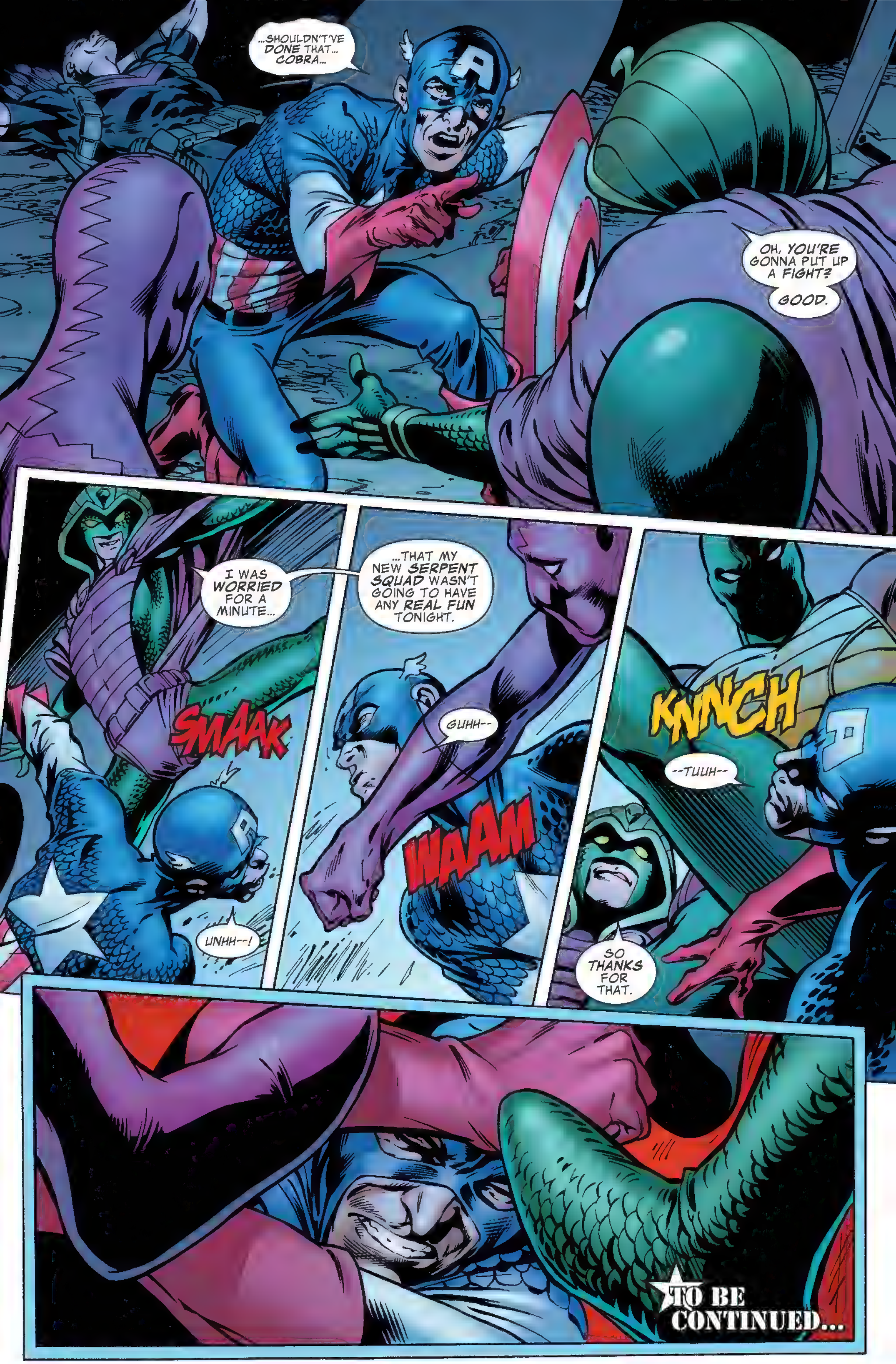

THIS... THIS IS *NUTS*, CAP.
NO. I *DON'T* THINK IT'S *INSANITY*.
I THINK IT'S *SCIENCE*.
SOMETHING *COMPELLED* THESE PEOPLE TO ACT.
THIS *WASN'T* SPONTANEOUS.
WHAT'RE WE *TALKIN'* ABOUT HERE?
DRUGS? M.G.H.?


AH, DAMN... LOOK AT HIS EYES.
AGENT 13, COME IN.
DID YOU GET THAT LOCATION YET?
YES. THE RIOT STARTED THREE BLOCKS NORTH OF YOUR CURRENT POSITION...
...THEY CAME POURING OUT OF McNULTY'S BAR, ALREADY FROTHING AT THE MOUTH.
DAMN IT.
WHAT IS IT, STEVE?
I'LL TELL YOU WHEN WE GET THERE, CLINT...
...RIGHT NOW I'M JUST PRAYING I'M WRONG.
BUT THAT ISN'T ALL I'M DOING.
I'M ALSO WONDERING WHY I FEEL SUDDENLY ILL.


BUT I DON'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THAT... I JUST PUSH IT ASIDE.
CAREFUL...
...DON'T TOUCH IT. THERE MAY BE A SECOND CHARGE.
THAT THING CAUSED THIS WHOLE PLACE TO RIOT?
YES...IT'S CALLED A MADBOMB.
I HAVEN'T SEEN ONE IN YEARS...
...BUT THE LAST TIME I DID, THEY LOOKED DIFFERENT.
WHICH MEANS SOMEONE'S UPDATED THE OLD TECH?
YEAH...WE NEED TONY OR HANK, NOW.
THIS THING NEEDS TO BE DISSECTED AND...AND...
AND ALL OF A SUDDEN I CAN'T PUSH IT ASIDE...
WUUHHH...
STEVE?


...AND I KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING.
AAAAHHH!
STEVE!
I KNOW I'M NOT SICK.
GAAAAAAHHH!
IT'S MY NIGHTMARES.
MY GOD...WHAT THE HELL DID YOU--
BRZZAAAAAZZZ
YAAAIIEEEE--!
CLINT...
THEY'RE COMING TRUE.


LOOK AT 'IM...HE'S JUST LIKE SHE SAID HE'D BE.
SHUT UP, VIPER.
TAKE CARE OF THE DEVICE, EEL.
NOT A PROBLEM.
BZZZAAT
NO ONE'S GONNA LEARN ANYTHING FROM THIS THING.


...SHOULDN'T'VE DONE THAT... COBRA...
OH, YOU'RE GONNA PUT UP A FIGHT?
GOOD.
I WAS WORRIED FOR A MINUTE...
SMAAK
UNHH--!
...THAT MY NEW SERPENT SQUAD WASN'T GOING TO HAVE ANY REAL FUN TONIGHT.
GUHH--
WAAM
KNNCH
--TUUH--
SO THANKS FOR THAT.
TO BE CONTINUED...

SHATTERED HEROES

MARVEL

7

CAPTAIN AMERICA

BRUBAKER
DAVIS
FARMER
MARTIN

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DURING THE DARK DAYS OF THE EARLY 1940S, A COVERT MILITARY EXPERIMENT TURNED STEVE ROGERS INTO AMERICA'S FIRST SUPER-SOLDIER, CAPTAIN AMERICA.

THROUGHOUT THE WAR, CAP AND HIS PARTNER BUCKY FOUGHT ALONGSIDE OUR INFANTRY AND WITH A GROUP OF HEROES KNOWN AS THE INVADERS. IN THE CLOSING MONTHS OF WWII, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WERE BOTH PRESUMED DEAD IN AN EXPLOSION OVER THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

DECADES LATER, A FIGURE WAS FOUND TRAPPED IN ICE, AND CAPTAIN AMERICA WAS REVIVED. HAVING SLEPT OVER THROUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE 20TH CENTURY, STEVE ROGERS AWAKENED TO A WORLD HE NEVER IMAGINED, A WORLD WHERE WAR HAD MOVED FROM THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE CITY STREETS...
A WORLD IN DIRE NEED OF...

CAPTAIN AMERICA

POWERLESS PART 2

IN 1944, WHILE PURSUING MEMBERS OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION HYDRA, AN ALLIED OPERATIVE KNOWN AS CODENAME BRAVO WAS LOST IN AN EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL DREAM WORLD, THE LAND OF NOWHERE. BRAVO RETURNED TO THE PRESENT, IN LEAGUE WITH THE HYDRA AGENTS, AND ATTEMPTED TO REMOLD THE ENTIRE WORLD USING THE LAND OF NOWHERE BEFORE CAPTAIN AMERICA STOPPED HIM. WITH BRAVO IMPRISONED, HIS WIFE, THE HYDRA QUEEN, HAS BEEN BUSY EXPANDING THEIR TERRORIST CELL. MEANWHILE, STEVE ROGERS HAS BEEN STRUGGLING WITH VIVID DREAMS OF LOSING HIS SUPER-SOLDIER ABILITIES, ONLY TO HAVE THEM COME TRUE IN THE MIDDLE OF A MADBOMB-PROVOKED RIOT, LEAVING HIM AT THE MERCY OF THE SERPENT SQUAD!

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CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED BY **JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY**

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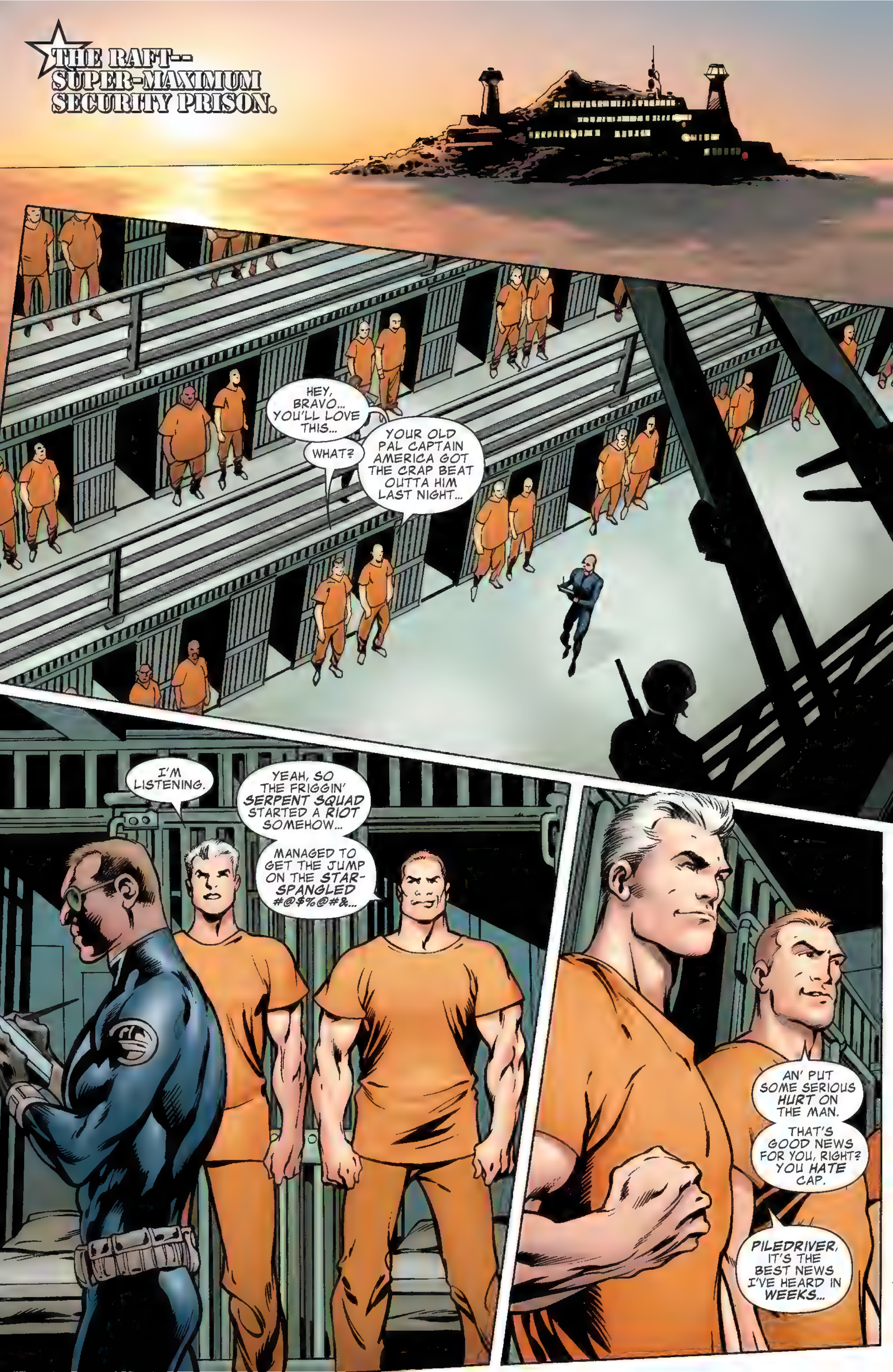
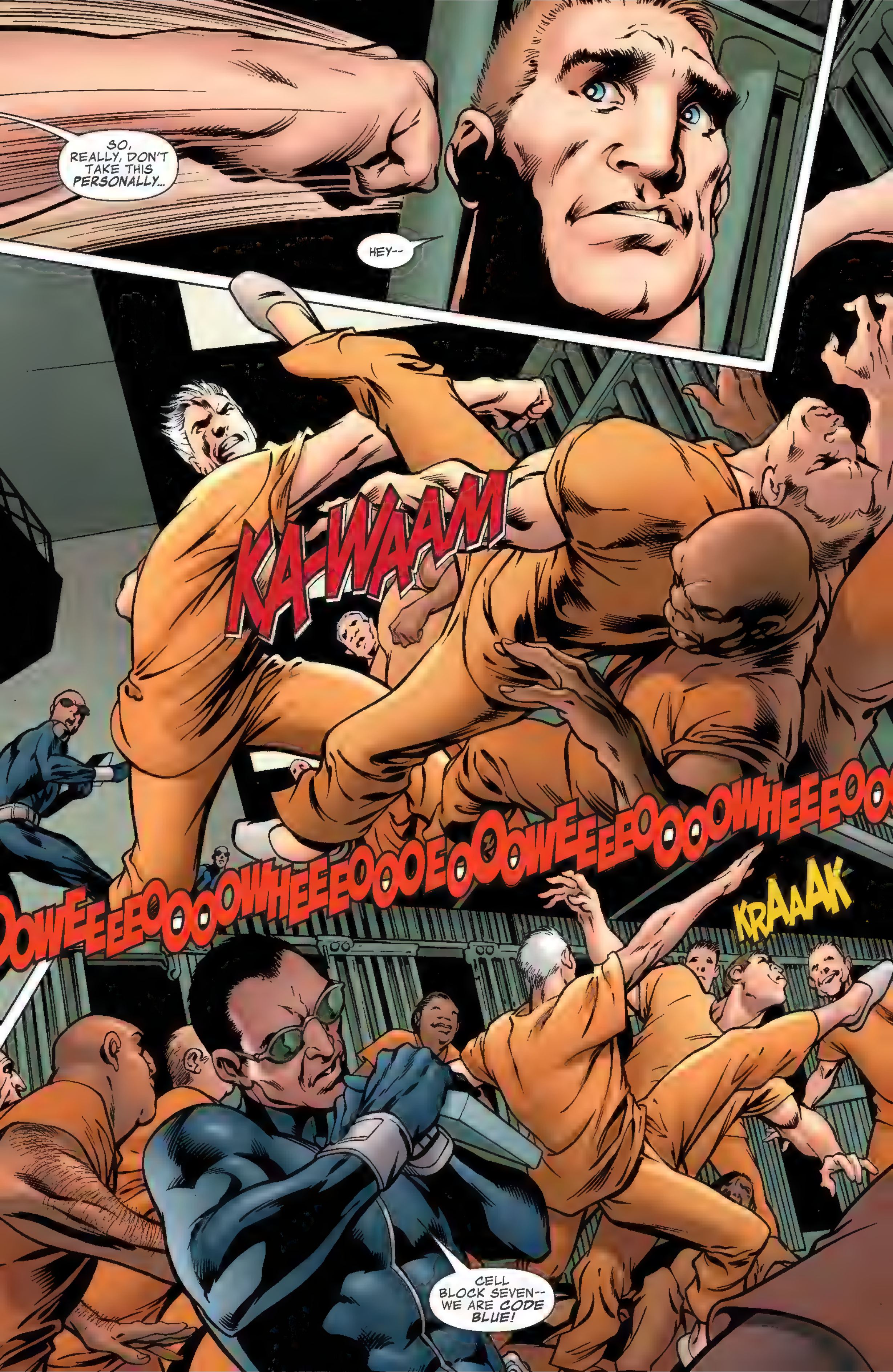
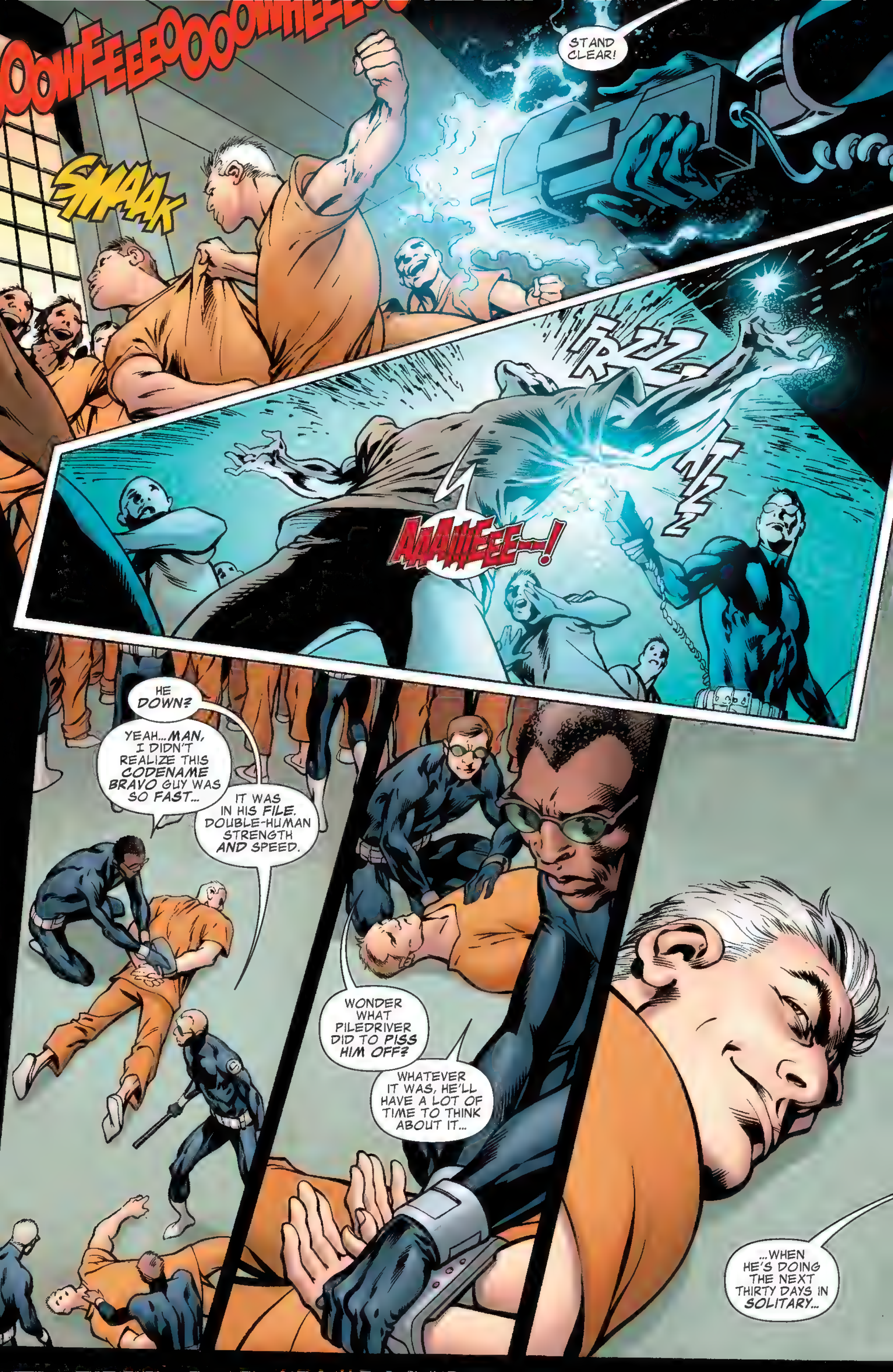
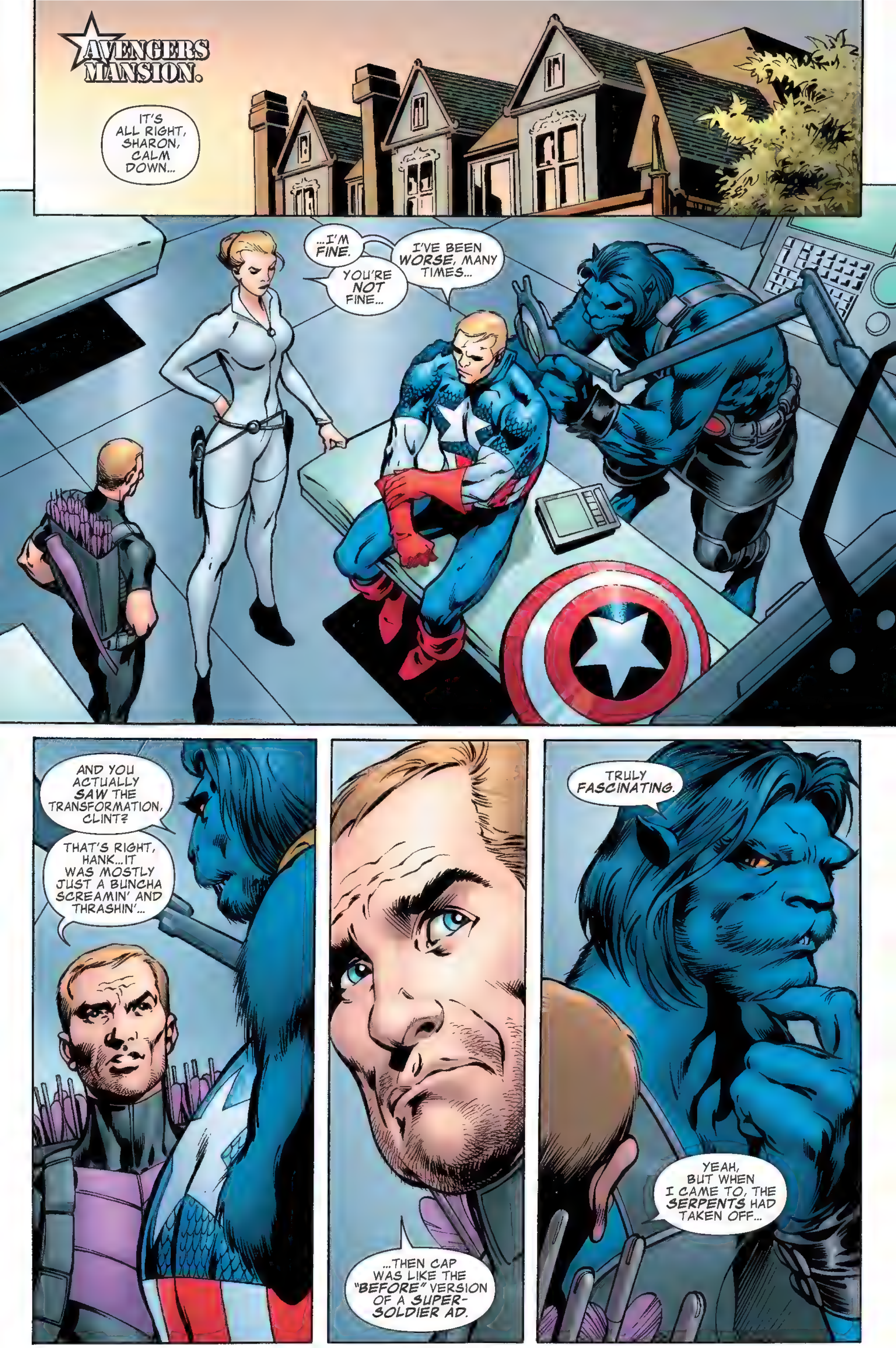
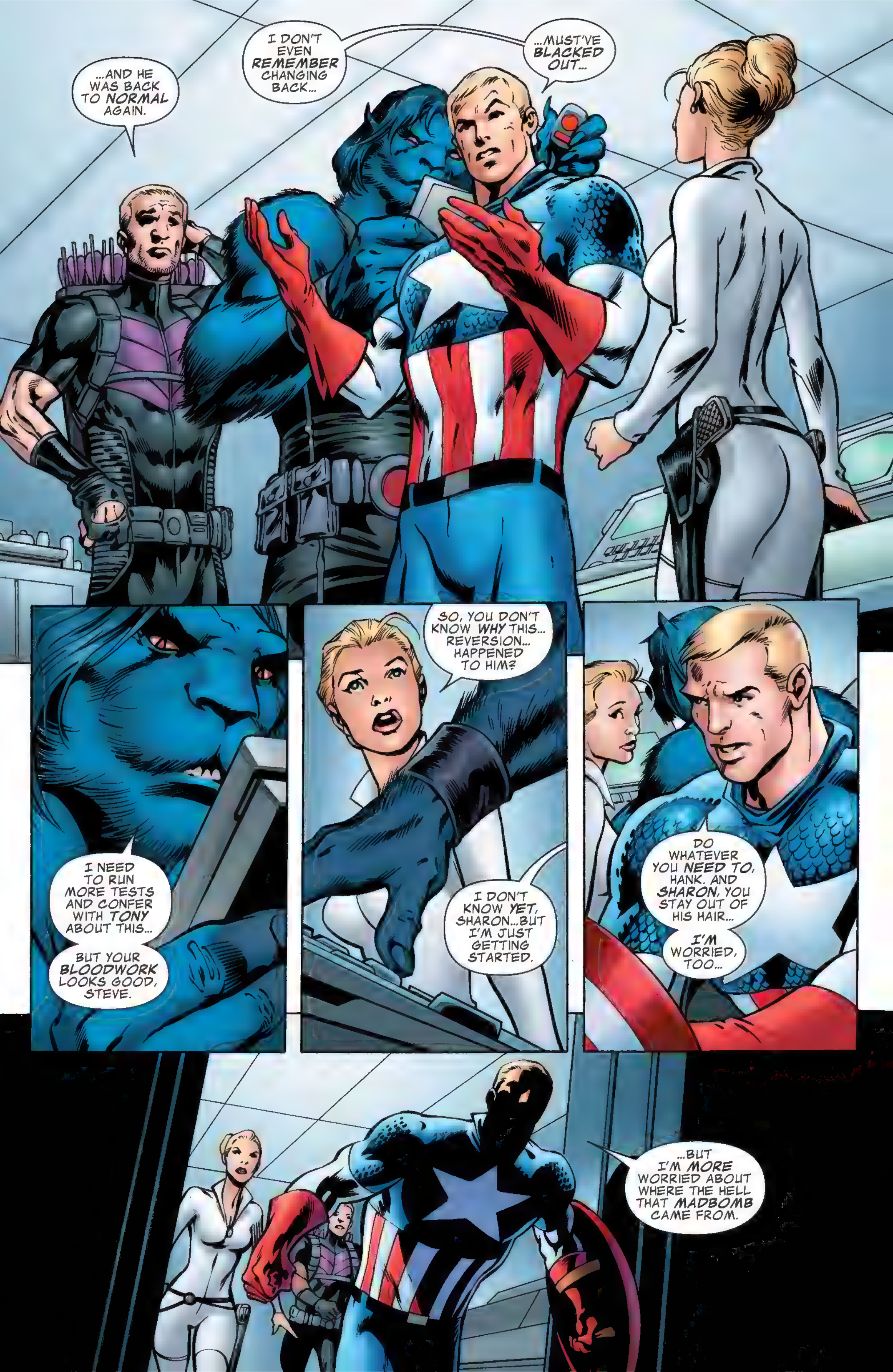
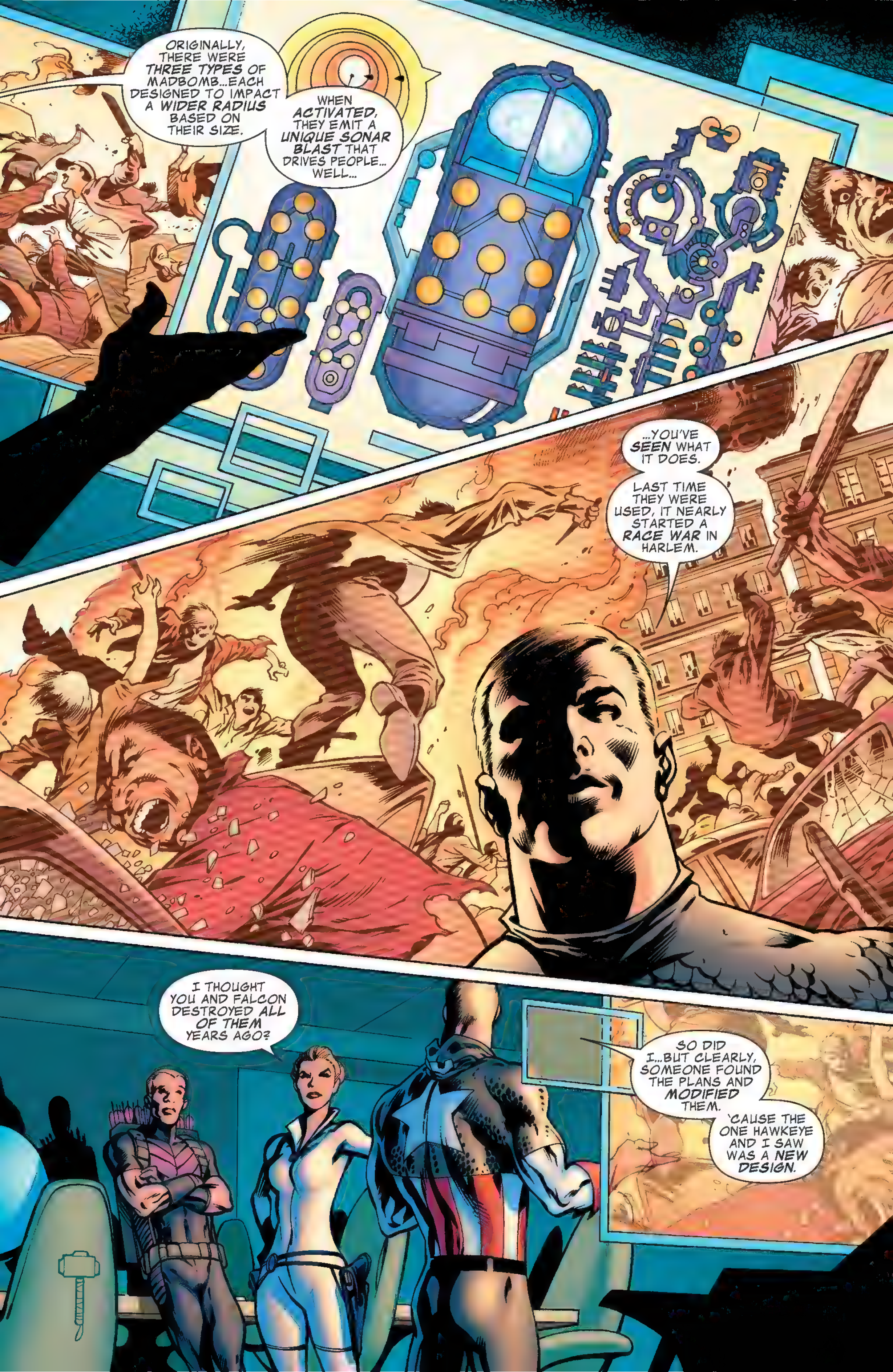

THE RAFT-- SUPER-MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON.
HEY, BRAVO... YOU'LL LOVE THIS...
WHAT?
YOUR OLD PAL CAPTAIN AMERICA GOT THE CRAP BEAT OUTTA HIM LAST NIGHT...
I'M LISTENING.
YEAH, SO THE FRIGGIN' *SERPENT SQUAD* STARTED A *RIOT* SOMEHOW...
MANAGED TO GET THE JUMP ON THE *STAR-SPANGLED* #@$%@#&...
AN' PUT SOME SERIOUS *HURT* ON THE MAN.
THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR YOU, RIGHT? YOU *HATE* CAP.
PILEDRIVER, IT'S THE BEST NEWS I'VE HEARD IN *WEEKS*...

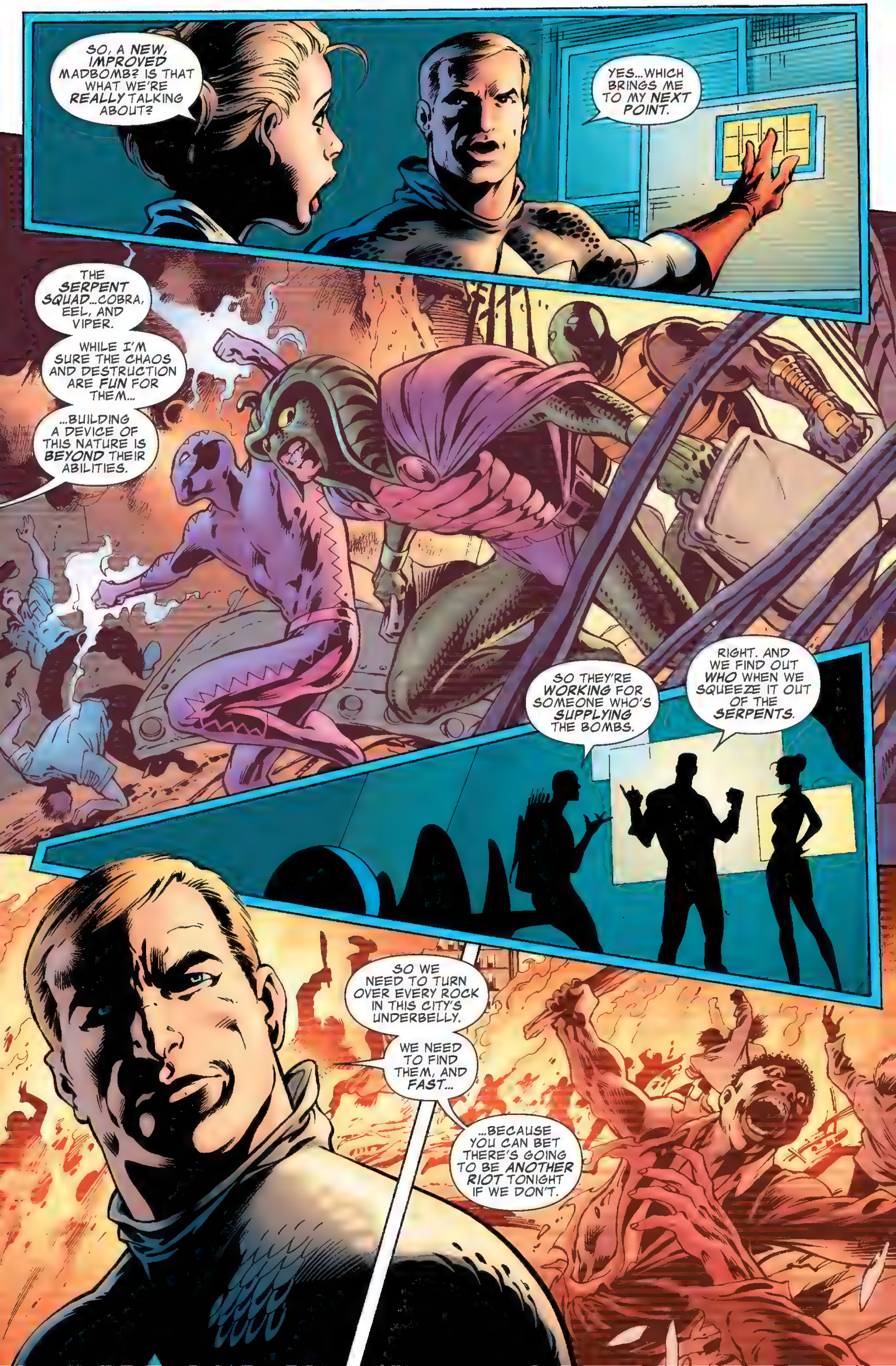

SO, REALLY, DON'T TAKE THIS PERSONALLY...
HEY--
KA-WAAM
OOWEEEEOOOOOWHEEEOOOEOOOWEEEEOOOOOWHEEEO
KRAAAK
CELL BLOCK SEVEN-- WE ARE CODE BLUE!

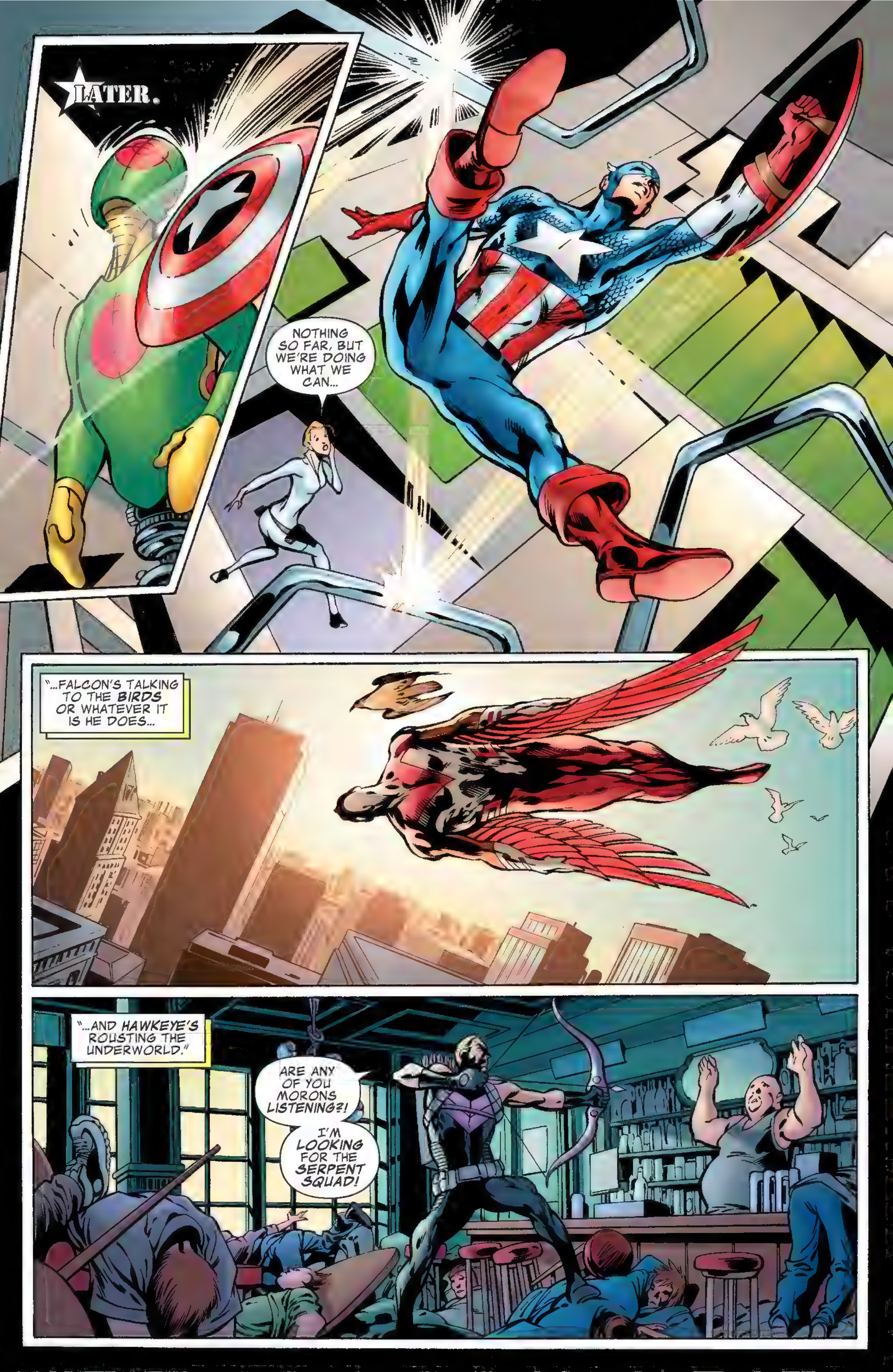

OOWEEEOOOOWHEEE
SMAAK
STAND CLEAR!
FRZZZATZZ
AAAIIIEEE--!
HE *DOWN*?
YEAH...*MAN*, I DIDN'T REALIZE THIS *CODENAME BRAVO* GUY WAS SO *FAST*...
IT WAS IN HIS *FILE*. DOUBLE-HUMAN STRENGTH *AND* SPEED.
WONDER WHAT PILEDRIVER DID TO *PISS HIM OFF*?
WHATEVER IT WAS, HE'LL HAVE A LOT OF TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT...
...WHEN HE'S DOING THE NEXT THIRTY DAYS IN *SOLITARY*...

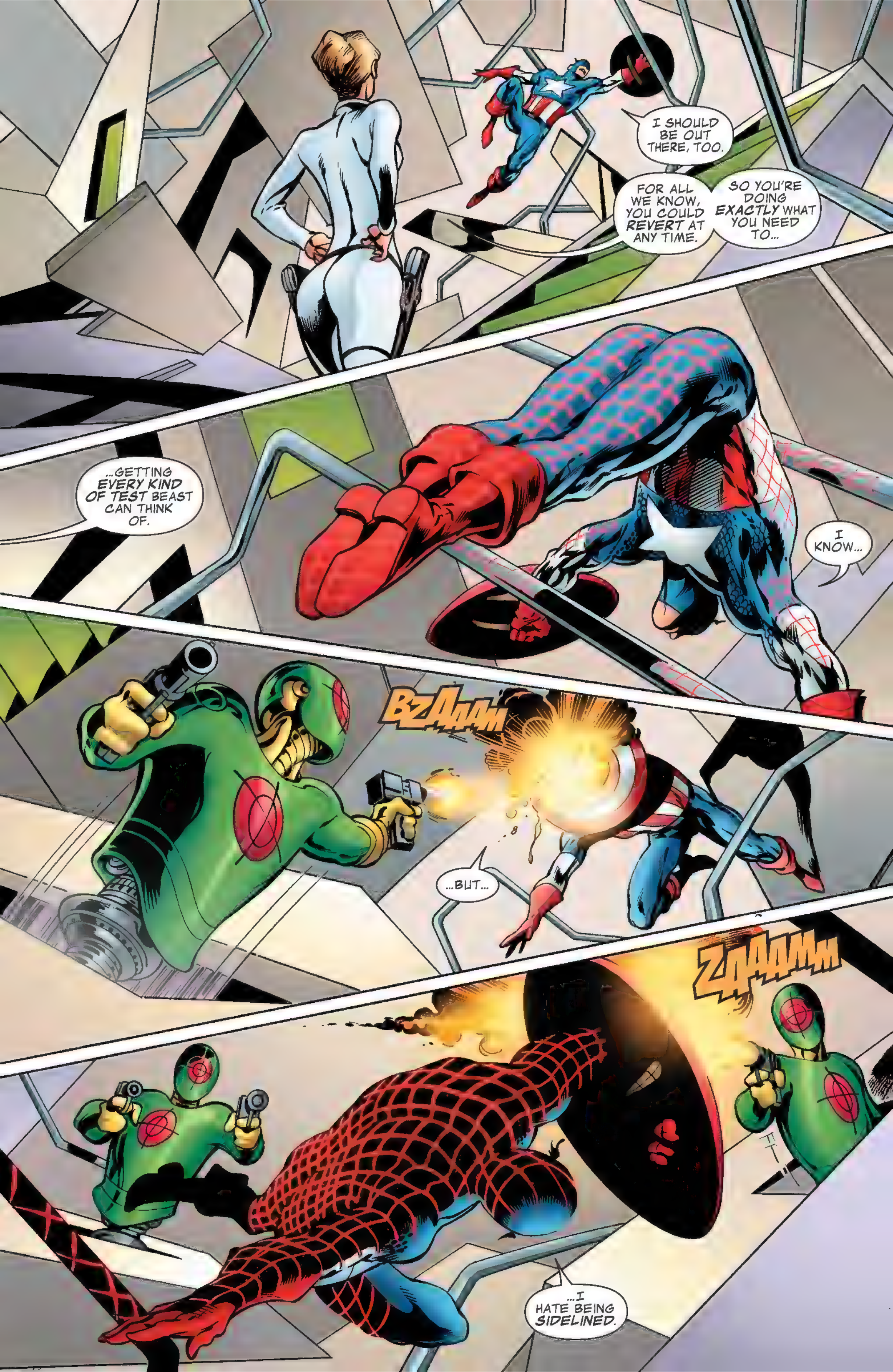

AVENGERS MANSION.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, SHARON, CALM DOWN...
...I'M *FINE.*
YOU'RE *NOT* FINE...
I'VE BEEN *WORSE*, MANY TIMES...
AND YOU ACTUALLY *SAW* THE TRANSFORMATION, CLINT?
THAT'S RIGHT, HANK...IT WAS MOSTLY JUST A BUNCHA SCREAMIN' AND THRASHIN'...
...THEN CAP WAS LIKE THE *"BEFORE"* VERSION OF A *SUPER-SOLDIER AD.*
TRULY *FASCINATING.*
YEAH, BUT WHEN I CAME TO, THE *SERPENTS* HAD TAKEN OFF...

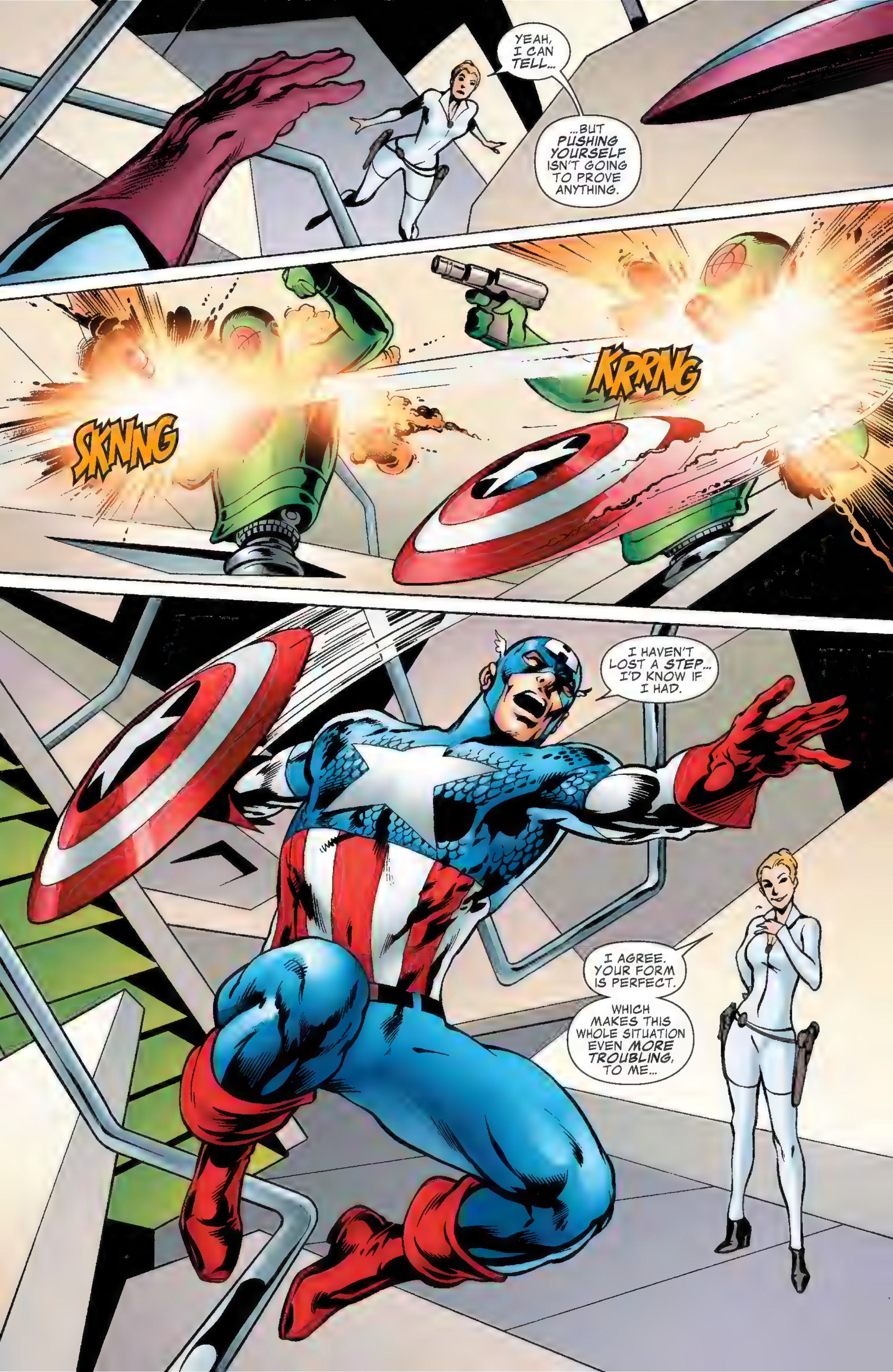

...AND HE WAS BACK TO **NORMAL** AGAIN.
I DON'T EVEN **REMEMBER** CHANGING BACK...
...MUST'VE **BLACKED** OUT...
I NEED TO RUN MORE TESTS AND CONFER WITH **TONY** ABOUT THIS...
BUT YOUR **BLOODWORK** LOOKS GOOD, STEVE.
SO, YOU DON'T KNOW **WHY** THIS... REVERSION... HAPPENED TO HIM?
I DON'T KNOW **YET**, SHARON...BUT I'M JUST GETTING STARTED.
DO WHATEVER YOU **NEED TO**, HANK. AND **SHARON**, YOU STAY OUT OF HIS HAIR...
I'M WORRIED, TOO...
...BUT I'M **MORE** WORRIED ABOUT WHERE THE HELL THAT **MADBOMB** CAME FROM.

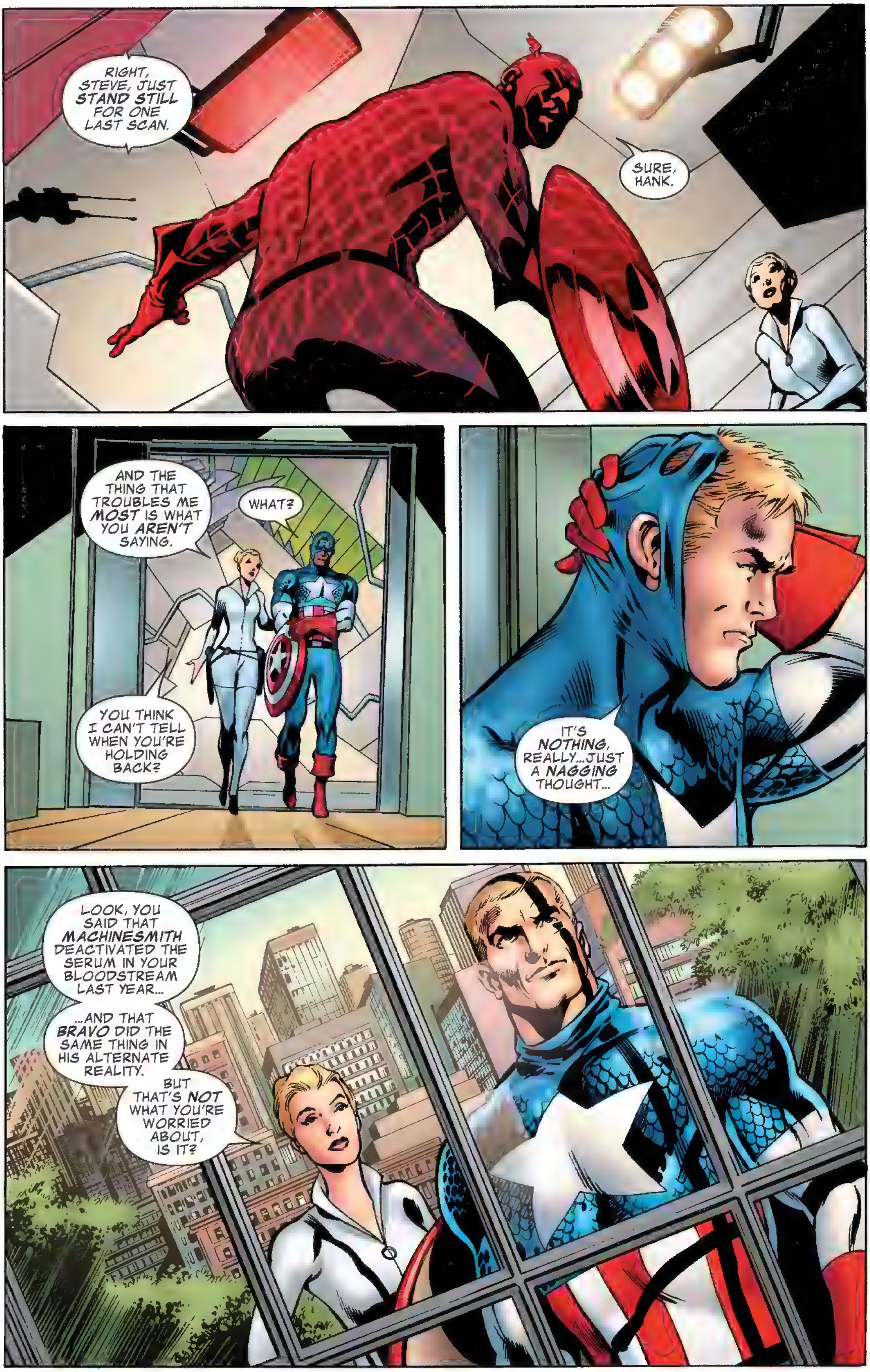

ORIGINALLY, THERE WERE THREE TYPES OF MADBOMB...EACH DESIGNED TO IMPACT A WIDER RADIUS BASED ON THEIR SIZE.
WHEN ACTIVATED, THEY EMIT A UNIQUE SONAR BLAST THAT DRIVES PEOPLE... WELL...
...YOU'VE SEEN WHAT IT DOES.
LAST TIME THEY WERE USED, IT NEARLY STARTED A RACE WAR IN HARLEM.
I THOUGHT YOU AND FALCON DESTROYED ALL OF THEM YEARS AGO?
SO DID I...BUT CLEARLY, SOMEONE FOUND THE PLANS AND MODIFIED THEM.
'CAUSE THE ONE HAWKEYE AND I SAW WAS A NEW DESIGN.

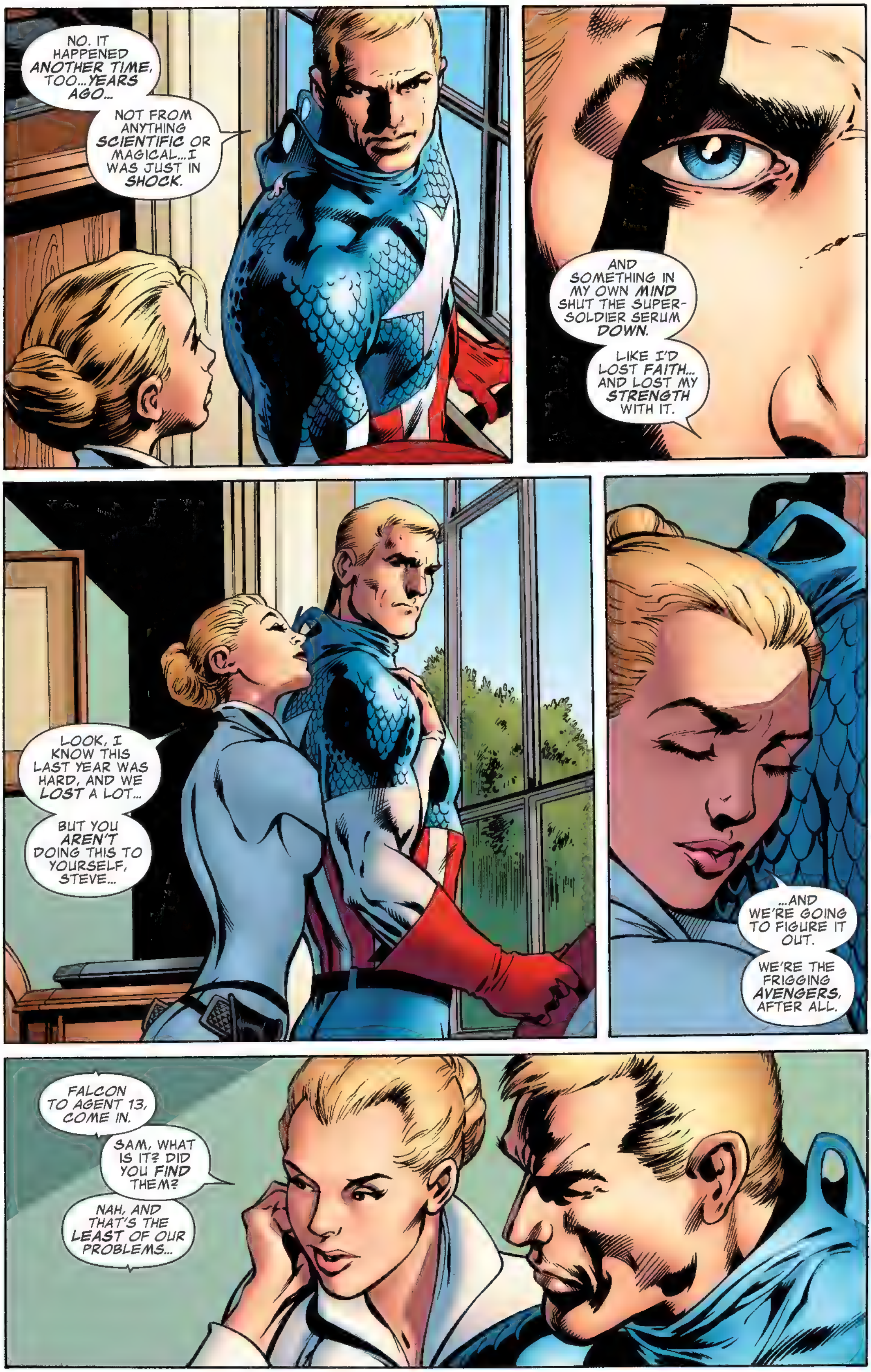

SO, A NEW, IMPROVED MADBOMB? IS THAT WHAT WE'RE REALLY TALKING ABOUT?
YES...WHICH BRINGS ME TO MY NEXT POINT.
THE SERPENT SQUAD...COBRA, EEL, AND VIPER.
WHILE I'M SURE THE CHAOS AND DESTRUCTION ARE FUN FOR THEM...
...BUILDING A DEVICE OF THIS NATURE IS BEYOND THEIR ABILITIES.
SO THEY'RE WORKING FOR SOMEONE WHO'S SUPPLYING THE BOMBS.
RIGHT. AND WE FIND OUT WHO WHEN WE SQUEEZE IT OUT OF THE SERPENTS.
SO WE NEED TO TURN OVER EVERY ROCK IN THIS CITY'S UNDERBELLY.
WE NEED TO FIND THEM, AND FAST...
...BECAUSE YOU CAN BET THERE'S GOING TO BE ANOTHER RIOT TONIGHT IF WE DON'T.

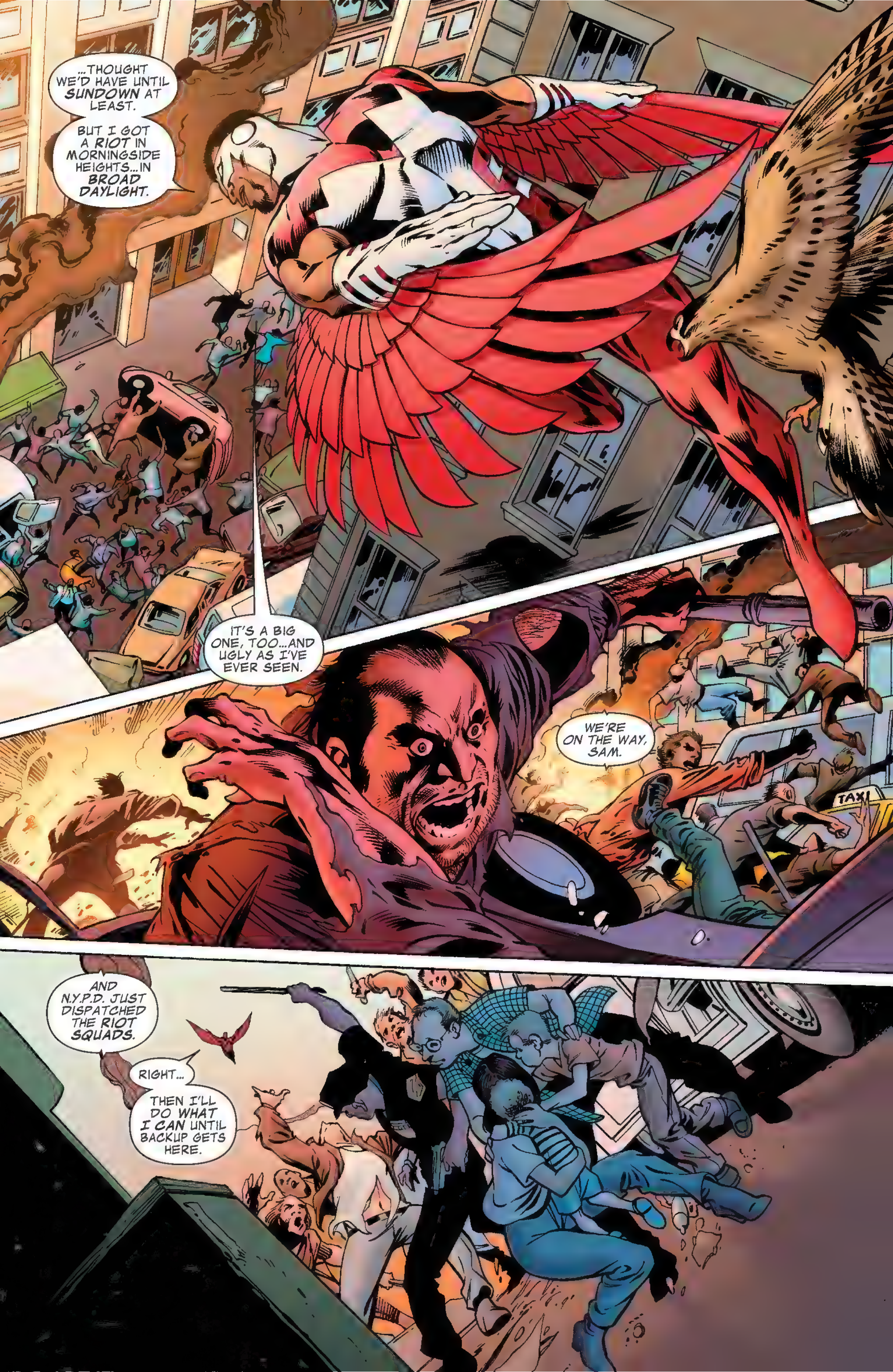

LATER.
NOTHING SO FAR, BUT WE'RE DOING WHAT WE CAN...
"...FALCON'S TALKING TO THE **BIRDS** OR WHATEVER IT IS HE DOES...
"...AND **HAWKEYE'S** ROUSTING THE UNDERWORLD."
ARE ANY OF YOU MORONS LISTENING?!
I'M **LOOKING** FOR THE **SERPENT SQUAD!**

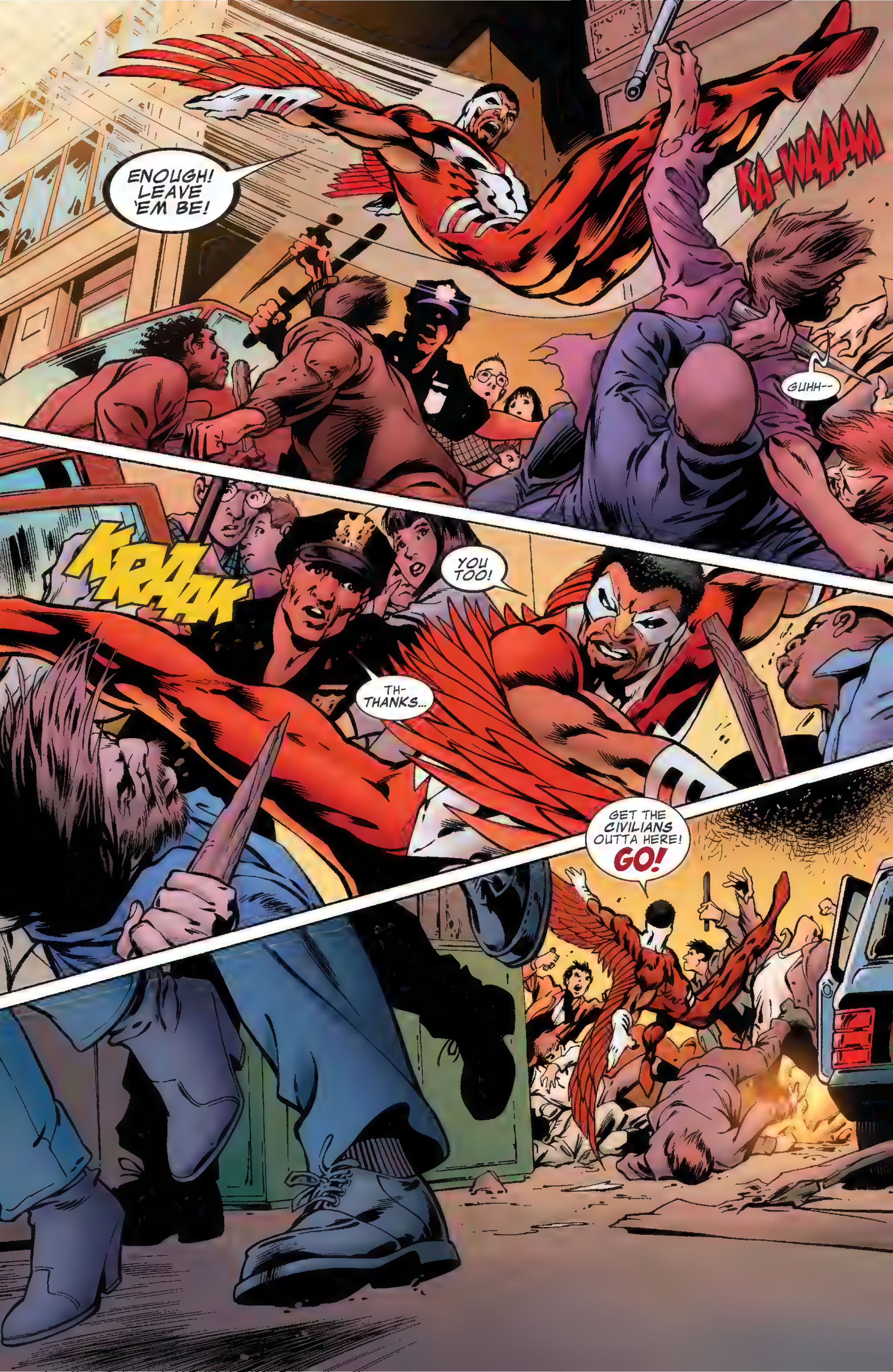

I SHOULD BE OUT THERE, TOO.
SO YOU'RE DOING EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEED TO...
FOR ALL WE KNOW, YOU COULD REVERT AT ANY TIME.
...GETTING EVERY KIND OF TEST BEAST CAN THINK OF.
I KNOW...
BZAAAM
...BUT...
ZAAAMM
...I HATE BEING SIDELINED.

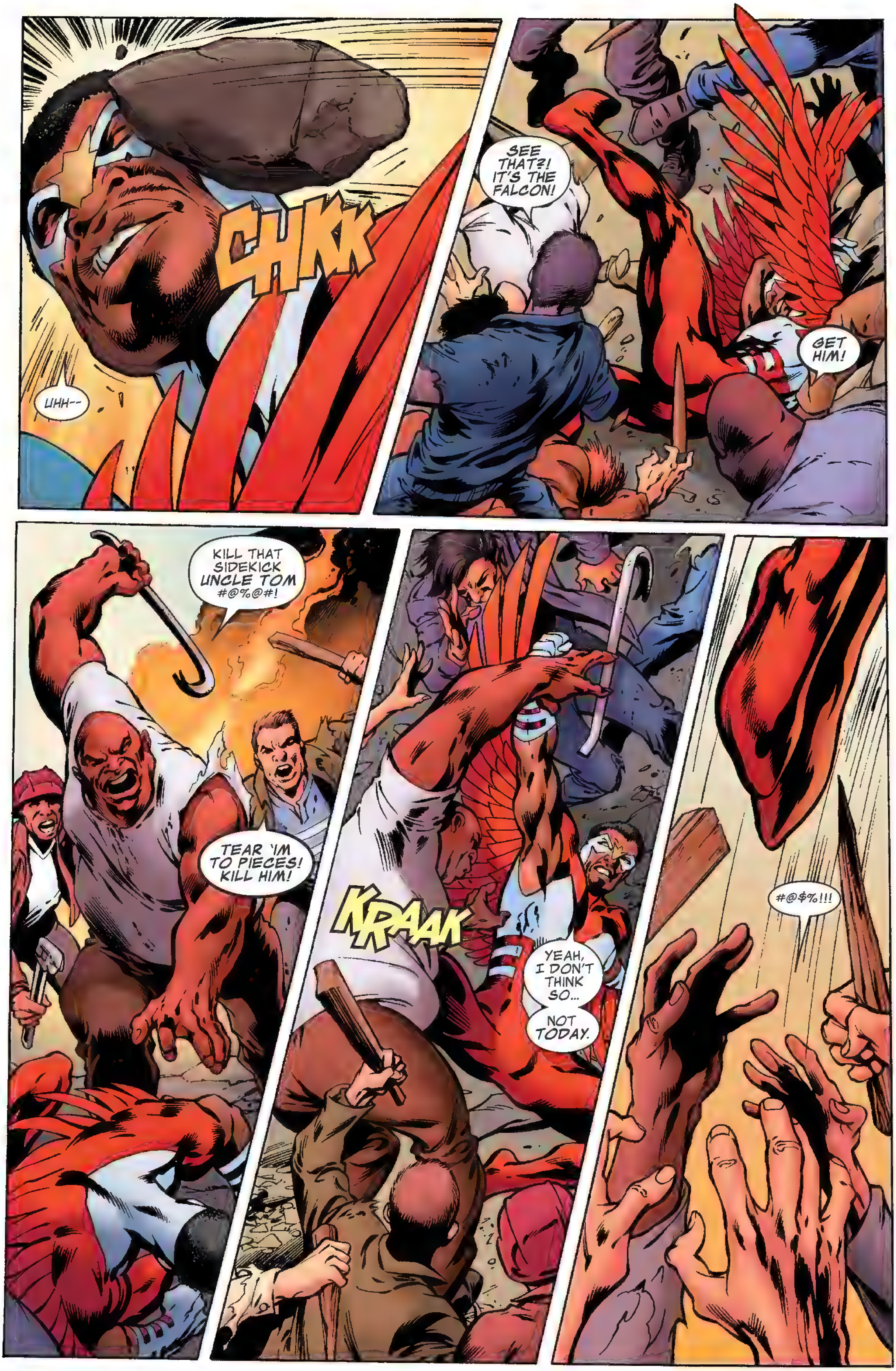

YEAH, I CAN TELL...
...BUT PUSHING YOURSELF ISN'T GOING TO PROVE ANYTHING.
SKNNG
KRRNG
I HAVEN'T LOST A STEP... I'D KNOW IF I HAD.
I AGREE. YOUR FORM IS PERFECT.
WHICH MAKES THIS WHOLE SITUATION EVEN MORE TROUBLING, TO ME...

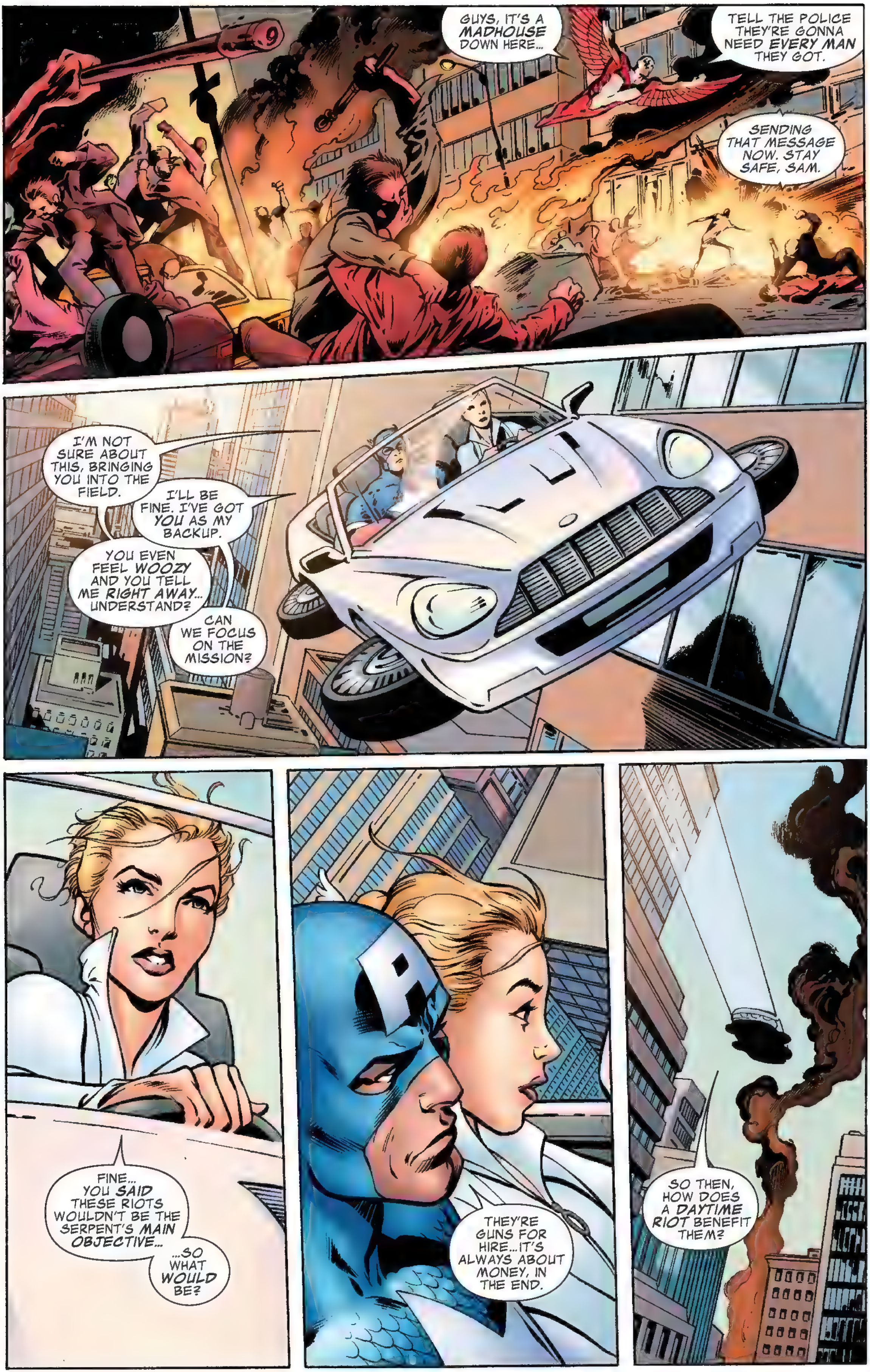

RIGHT, STEVE, JUST **STAND STILL** FOR ONE LAST SCAN.
SURE, HANK.
AND THE THING THAT TROUBLES ME **MOST** IS WHAT YOU **AREN'T** SAYING.
WHAT?
YOU THINK I CAN'T TELL WHEN YOU'RE HOLDING BACK?
IT'S **NOTHING**, REALLY...JUST A **NAGGING** THOUGHT...
LOOK, YOU SAID THAT **MACHINESMITH** DEACTIVATED THE SERUM IN YOUR BLOODSTREAM LAST YEAR...
...AND THAT **BRAVO** DID THE SAME THING IN HIS ALTERNATE REALITY.
BUT THAT'S **NOT** WHAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT, IS IT?

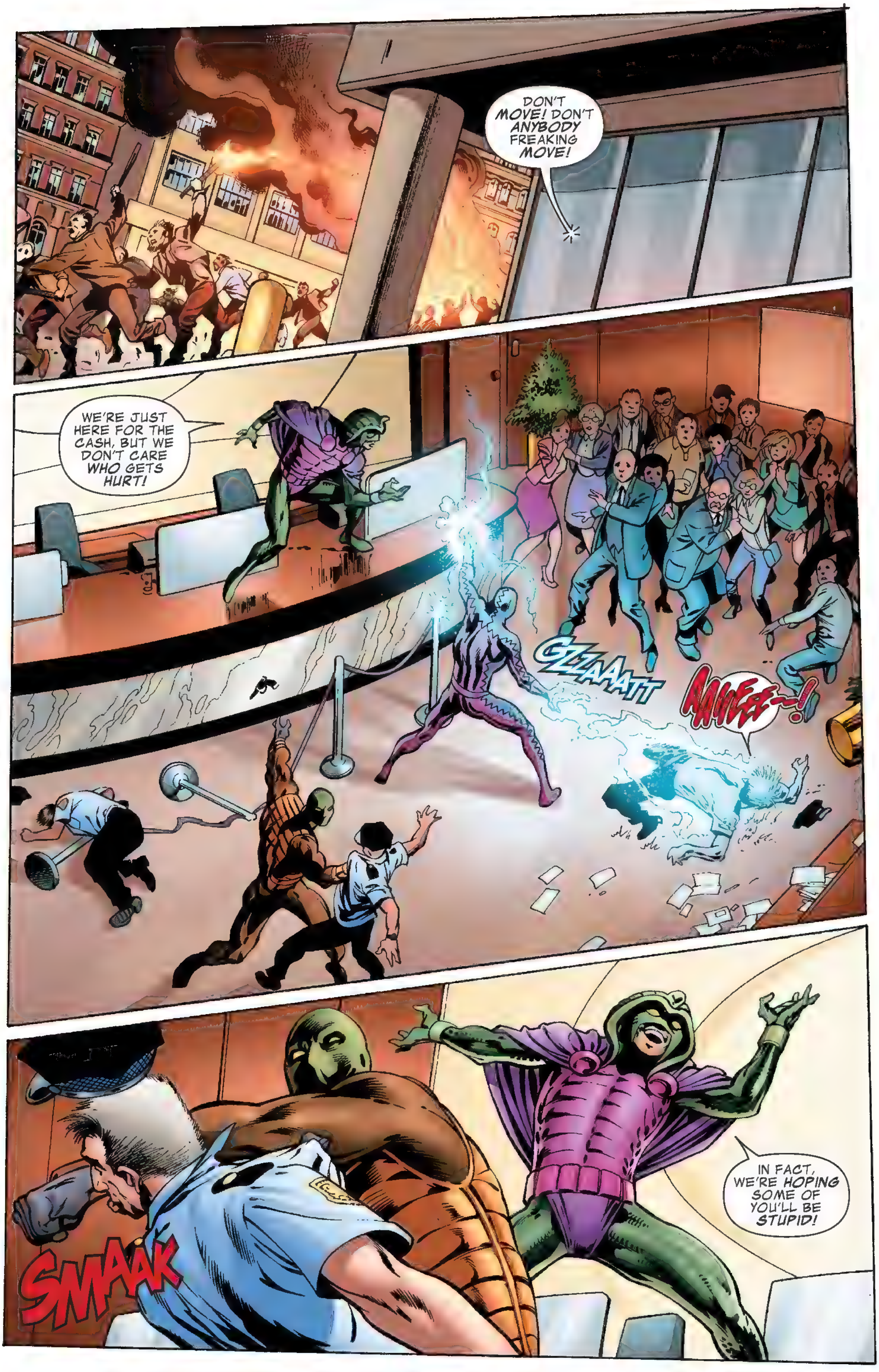

NO. IT HAPPENED ANOTHER TIME, TOO...YEARS AGO...
NOT FROM ANYTHING SCIENTIFIC OR MAGICAL...I WAS JUST IN SHOCK.
AND SOMETHING IN MY OWN MIND SHUT THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM DOWN.
LIKE I'D LOST FAITH... AND LOST MY STRENGTH WITH IT.
LOOK, I KNOW THIS LAST YEAR WAS HARD, AND WE LOST A LOT...
BUT YOU AREN'T DOING THIS TO YOURSELF, STEVE...
...AND WE'RE GOING TO FIGURE IT OUT.
WE'RE THE FRIGGING AVENGERS, AFTER ALL.
FALCON TO AGENT 13, COME IN.
SAM, WHAT IS IT? DID YOU FIND THEM?
NAH, AND THAT'S THE LEAST OF OUR PROBLEMS...

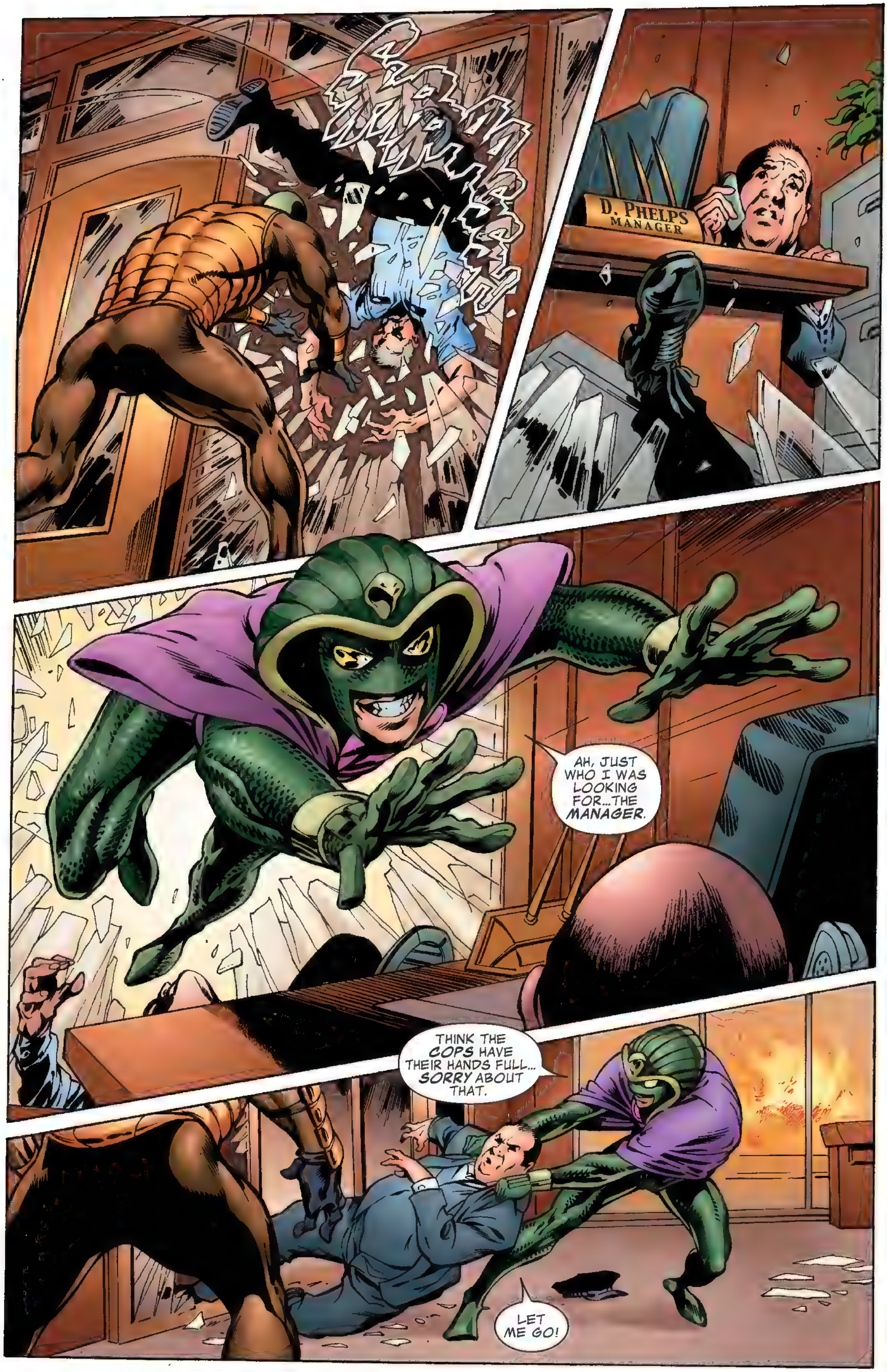

...THOUGHT WE'D HAVE UNTIL SUNDOWN AT LEAST.
BUT I GOT A RIOT IN MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS...IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.
IT'S A BIG ONE, TOO...AND UGLY AS I'VE EVER SEEN.
WE'RE ON THE WAY, SAM.
TAXI
AND N.Y.P.D. JUST DISPATCHED THE RIOT SQUADS.
RIGHT...
THEN I'LL DO WHAT I CAN UNTIL BACKUP GETS HERE.

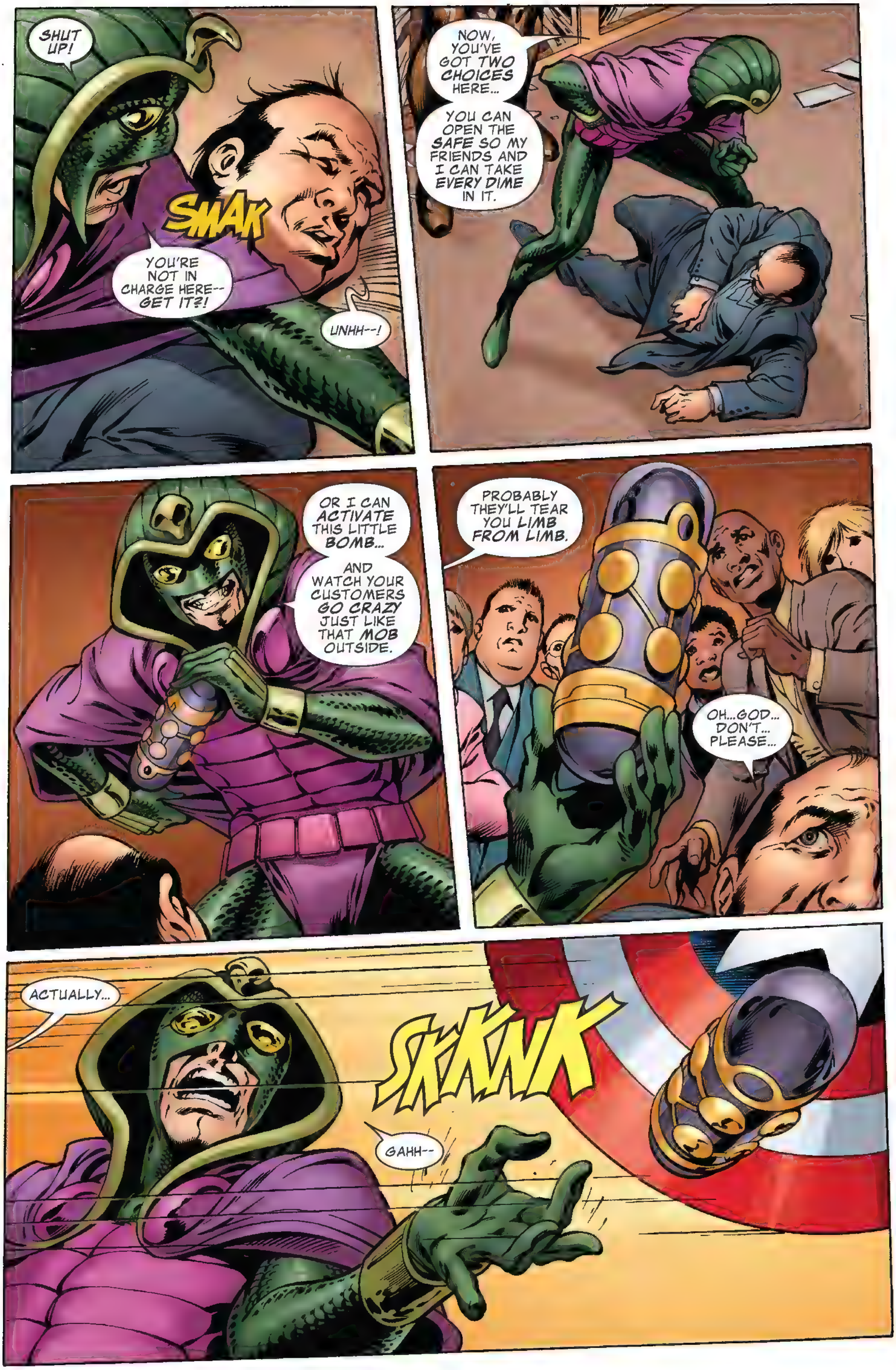

ENOUGH! LEAVE 'EM BE!
KA-WAAAM
GUHH--
KRAAAK
YOU TOO!
TH- THANKS...
GET THE CIVILIANS OUTTA HERE! GO!

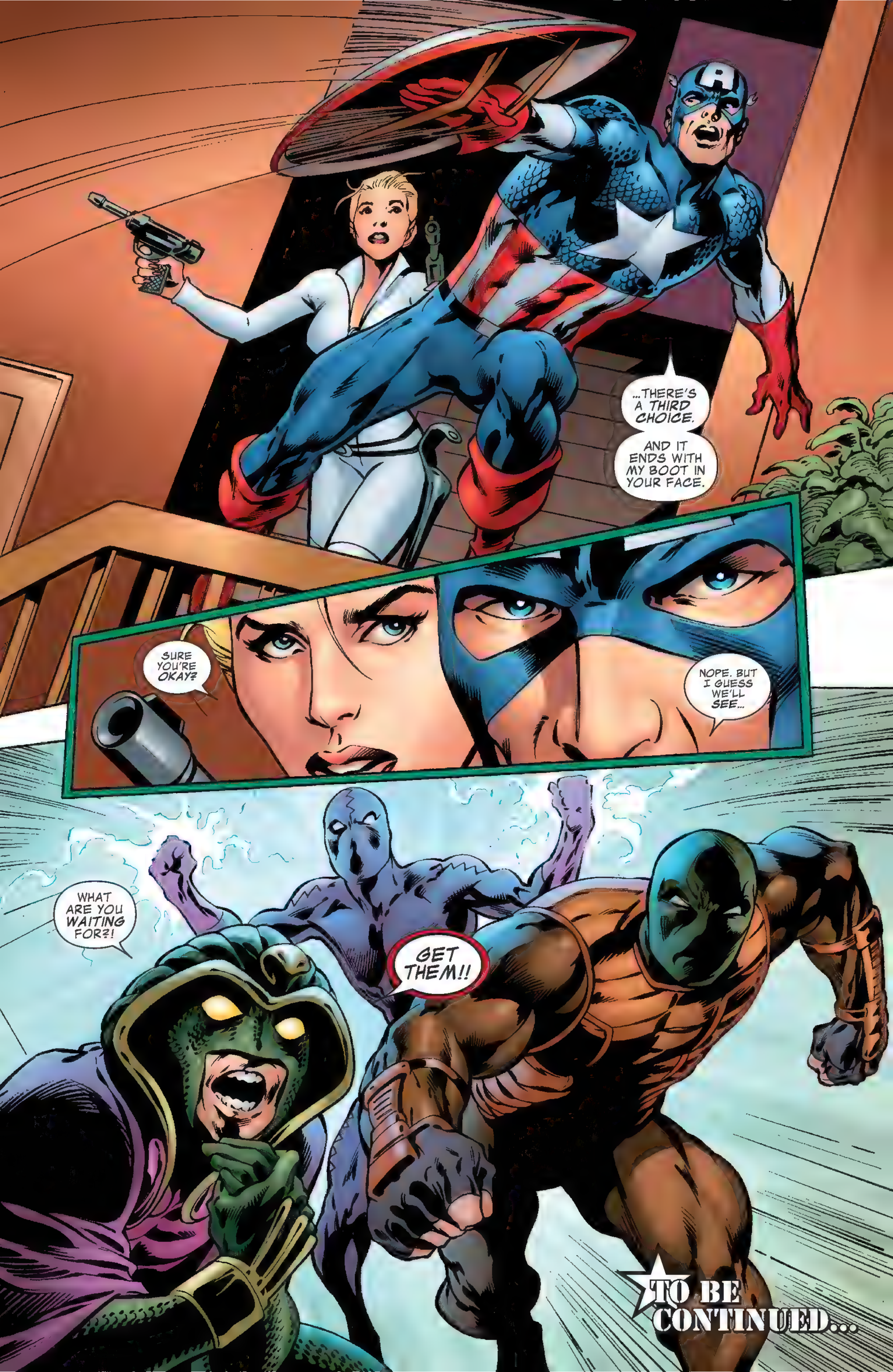

CHKK
UHH--
SEE THAT?! IT'S THE FALCON!
GET HIM!
KILL THAT SIDEKICK UNCLE TOM #@%@#!
TEAR 'IM TO PIECES! KILL HIM!
KRAAK
YEAH, I DON'T THINK SO...
NOT TODAY.
#@$%!!!


GUYS, IT'S A MADHOUSE DOWN HERE...
TELL THE POLICE THEY'RE GONNA NEED EVERY MAN THEY GOT.
SENDING THAT MESSAGE NOW. STAY SAFE, SAM.
I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THIS, BRINGING YOU INTO THE FIELD.
I'LL BE FINE. I'VE GOT YOU AS MY BACKUP.
YOU EVEN FEEL WOOZY AND YOU TELL ME RIGHT AWAY... UNDERSTAND?
CAN WE FOCUS ON THE MISSION?
FINE... YOU SAID THESE RIOTS WOULDN'T BE THE SERPENT'S MAIN OBJECTIVE...
...SO WHAT WOULD BE?
THEY'RE GUNS FOR HIRE... IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT MONEY, IN THE END.
SO THEN, HOW DOES A DAYTIME RIOT BENEFIT THEM?


DON'T *MOVE!* DON'T *ANYBODY* FREAKING *MOVE!*
WE'RE JUST HERE FOR THE CASH, BUT WE DON'T CARE *WHO GETS HURT!*
GZZAAATT
AAIIEEE--!
IN FACT, WE'RE *HOPING* SOME OF YOU'LL BE *STUPID!*
SMAAK


D. PHELPS
MANAGER
AH, JUST WHO I WAS LOOKING FOR...THE *MANAGER*.
THINK THE *COPS* HAVE THEIR HANDS FULL... *SORRY* ABOUT THAT.
LET ME GO!


SHUT UP!
SMAK
YOU'RE NOT IN CHARGE HERE-- GET IT?!
UNHH--!
NOW, YOU'VE GOT TWO CHOICES HERE...
YOU CAN OPEN THE SAFE SO MY FRIENDS AND I CAN TAKE EVERY DIME IN IT.
OR I CAN ACTIVATE THIS LITTLE BOMB...
AND WATCH YOUR CUSTOMERS GO CRAZY JUST LIKE THAT MOB OUTSIDE.
PROBABLY THEY'LL TEAR YOU LIMB FROM LIMB.
OH...GOD... DON'T... PLEASE...
ACTUALLY...
SKKNK
GAHH--


...THERE'S A THIRD CHOICE.
AND IT ENDS WITH MY BOOT IN YOUR FACE.
SURE YOU'RE OKAY?
NOPE. BUT I GUESS WE'LL SEE...
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!
GET THEM!!
TO BE CONTINUED...

MARVEL

8

BRUBAKER
DAVIS
FARMER
MARTIN

SUPER-SOLDIER NO MORE!

CAPTAIN AMERICA

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CAPTAIN AMERICA

POWERLESS PART 3

EX-ALLIED OPERATIVE CODE NAME BRAVO HAS JOINED FORCES WITH A NEW HYDRA QUEEN FOR WORLD DOMINATION. WITH BRAVO FOILED AND IMPRISONED BY CAPTAIN AMERICA, THE QUEEN CONTINUES TO EXPAND THEIR TERRORIST CELL. MEANWHILE, STEVE ROGERS' RECURRING DREAMS OF HAVING LOST HIS SUPER-SOLDIER ABILITIES MOMENTARILY BECAME REAL DURING HIS LAST MISSION. BUT WITH THE SERPENT SQUAD PROVOKING ANOTHER RIOT WITH A MODIFIED MADBOMB, CAPTAIN AMERICA HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO REJOIN THE FIGHT.

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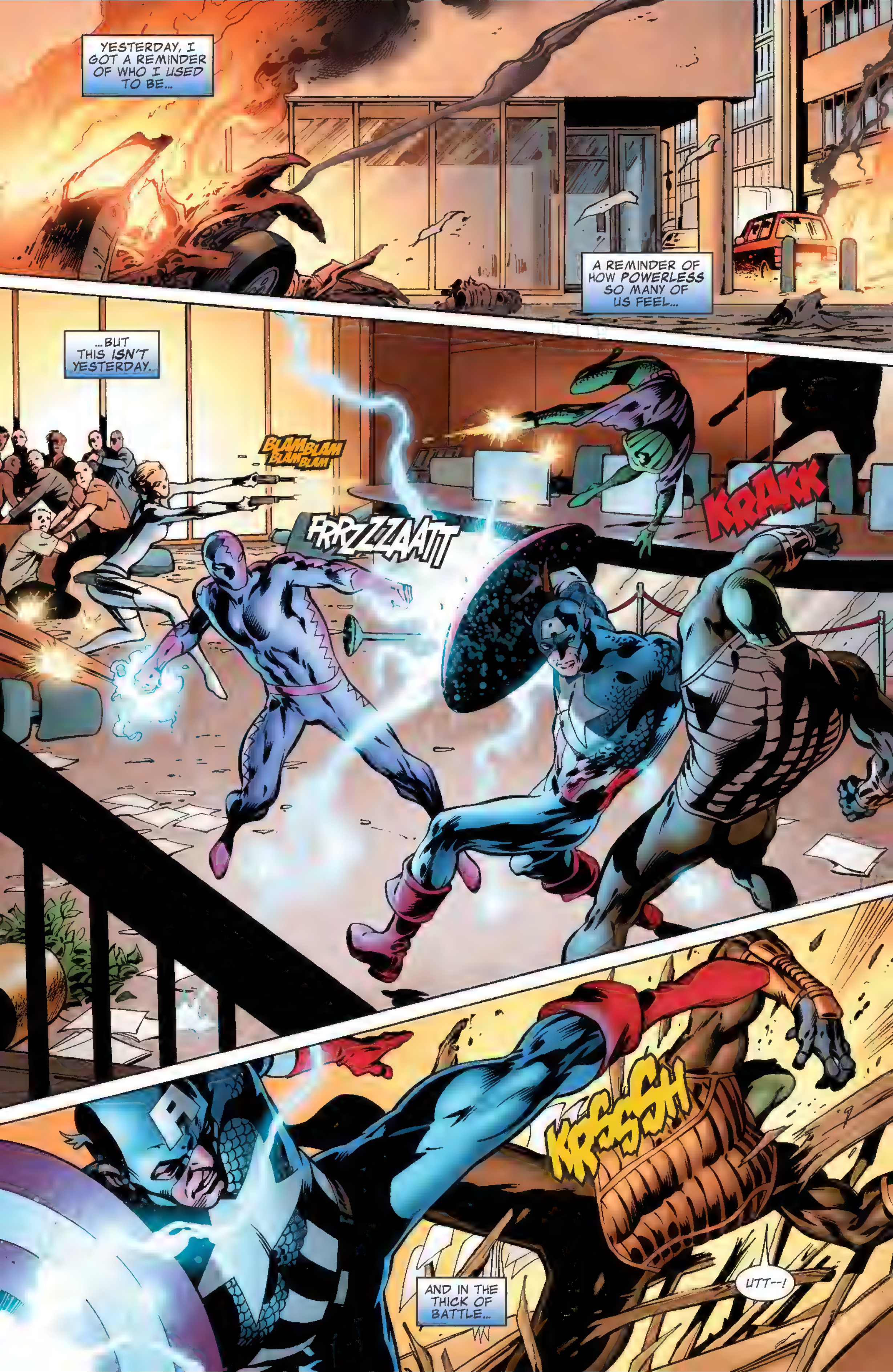
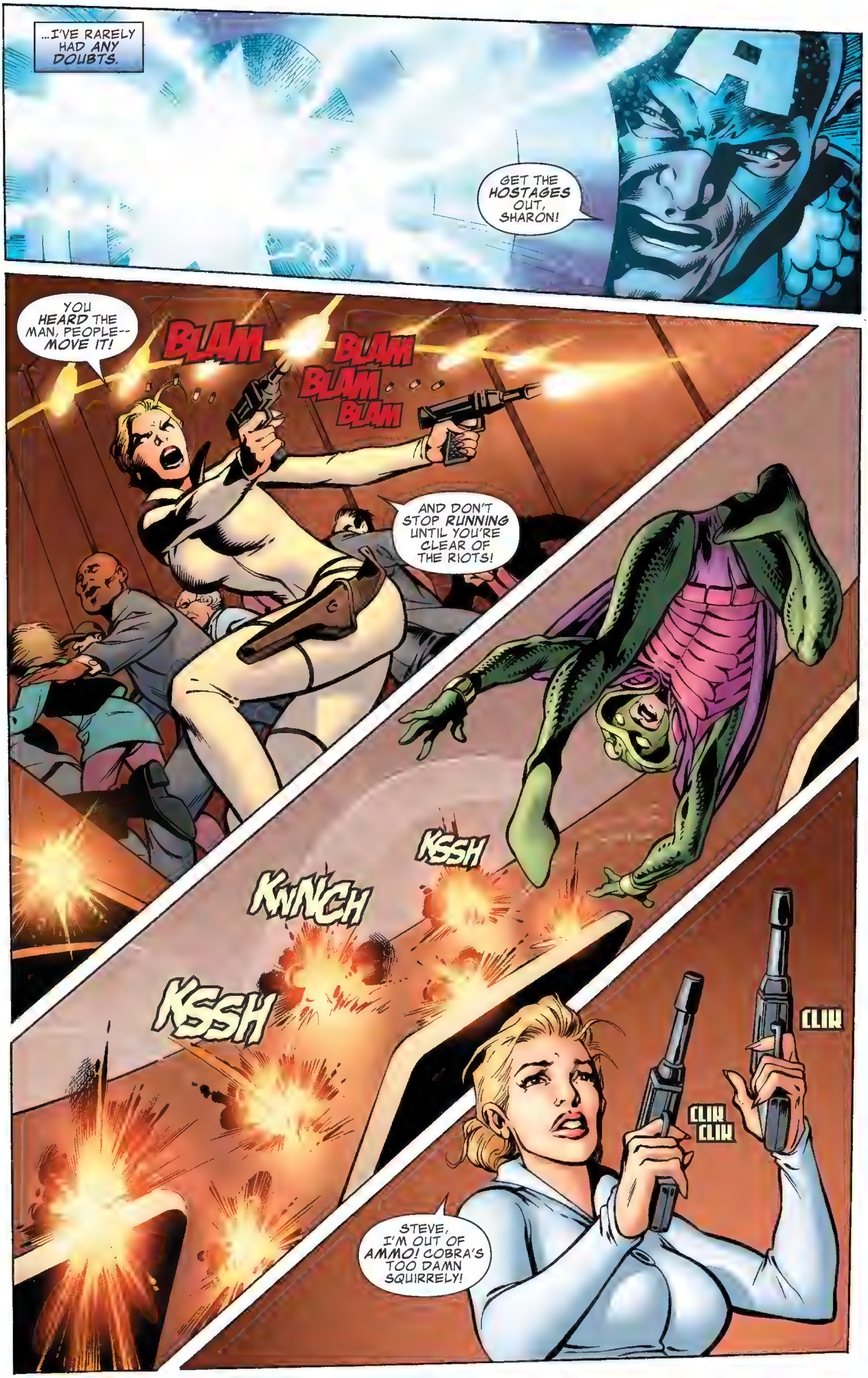
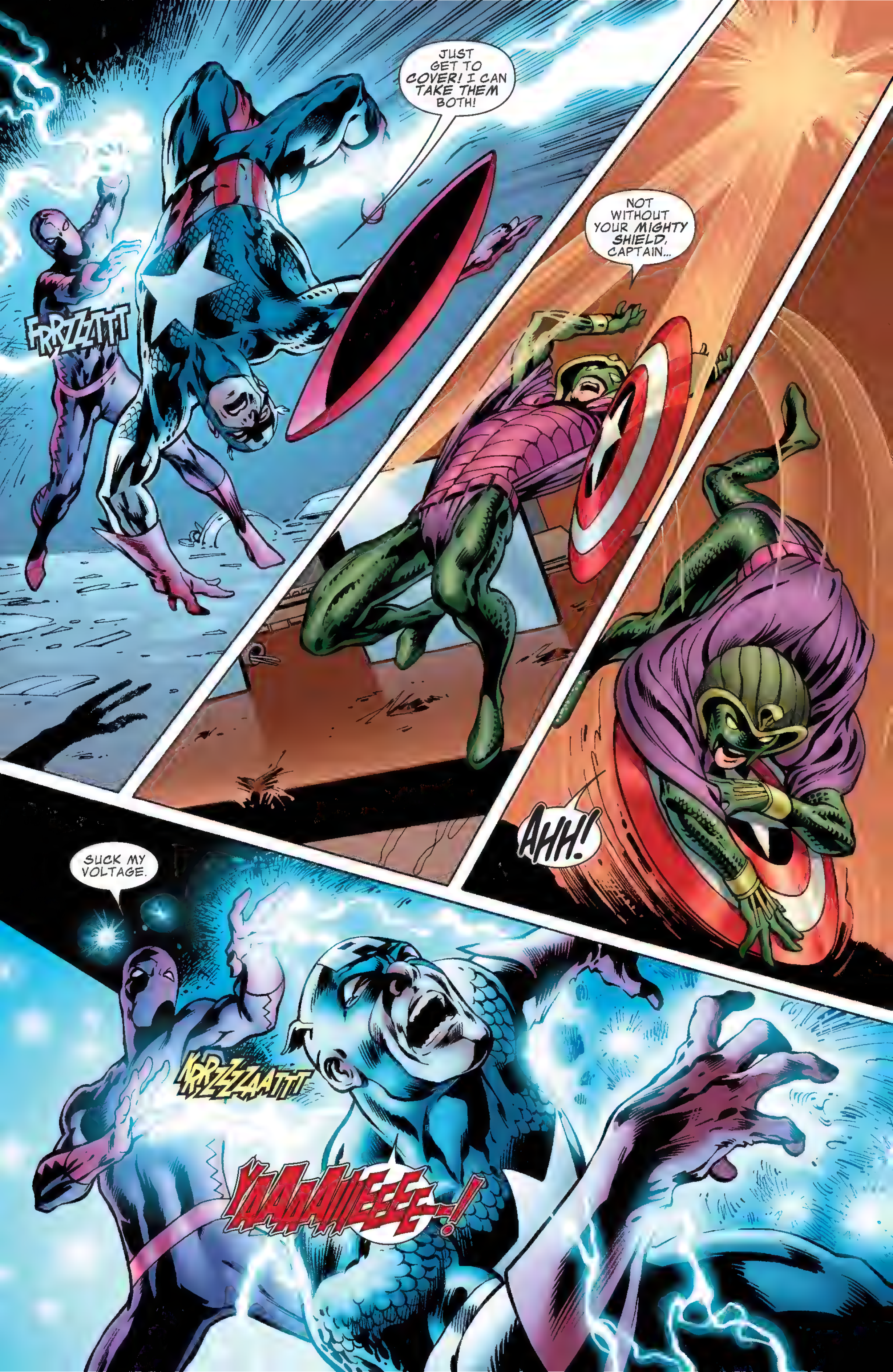
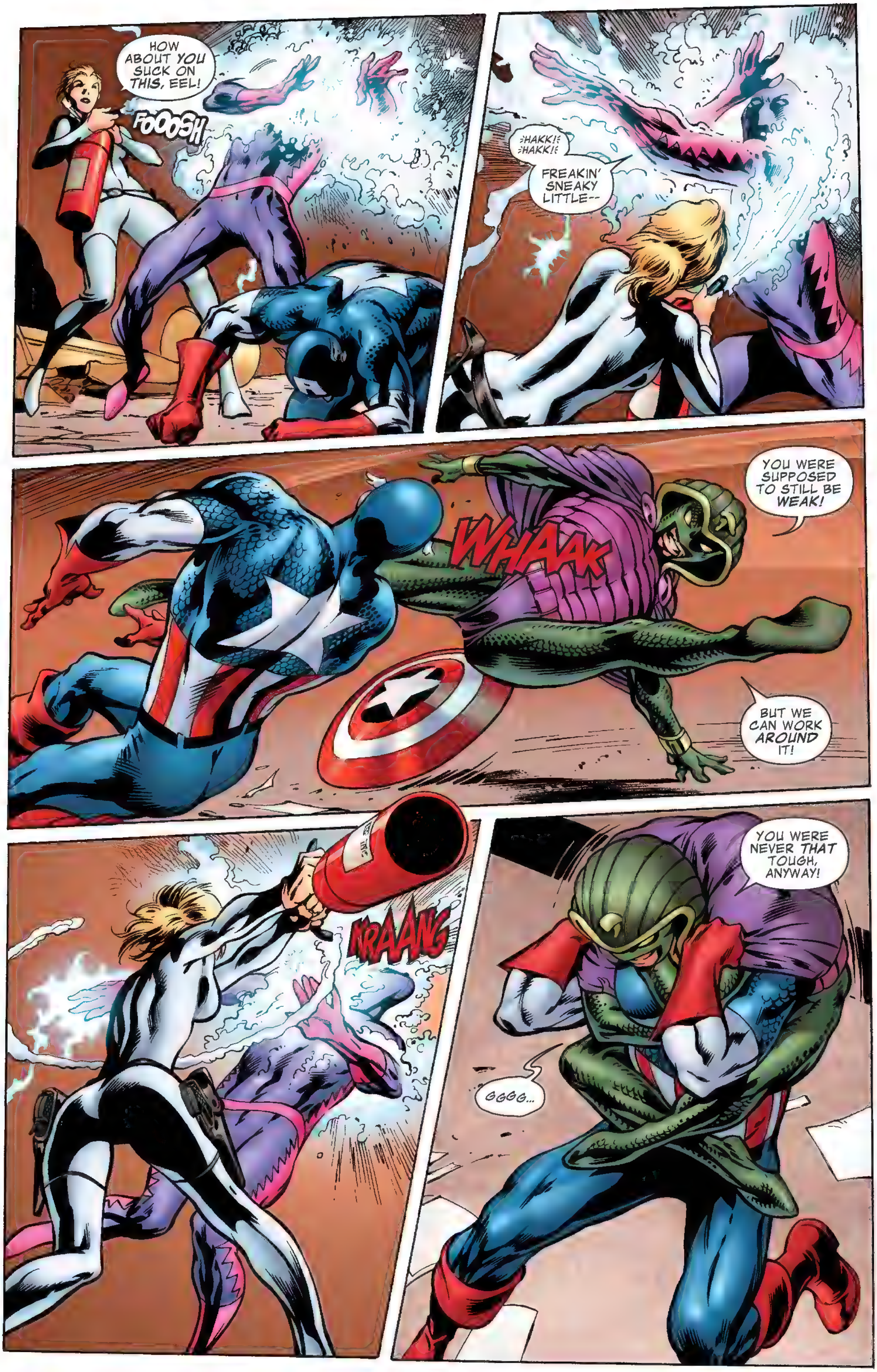
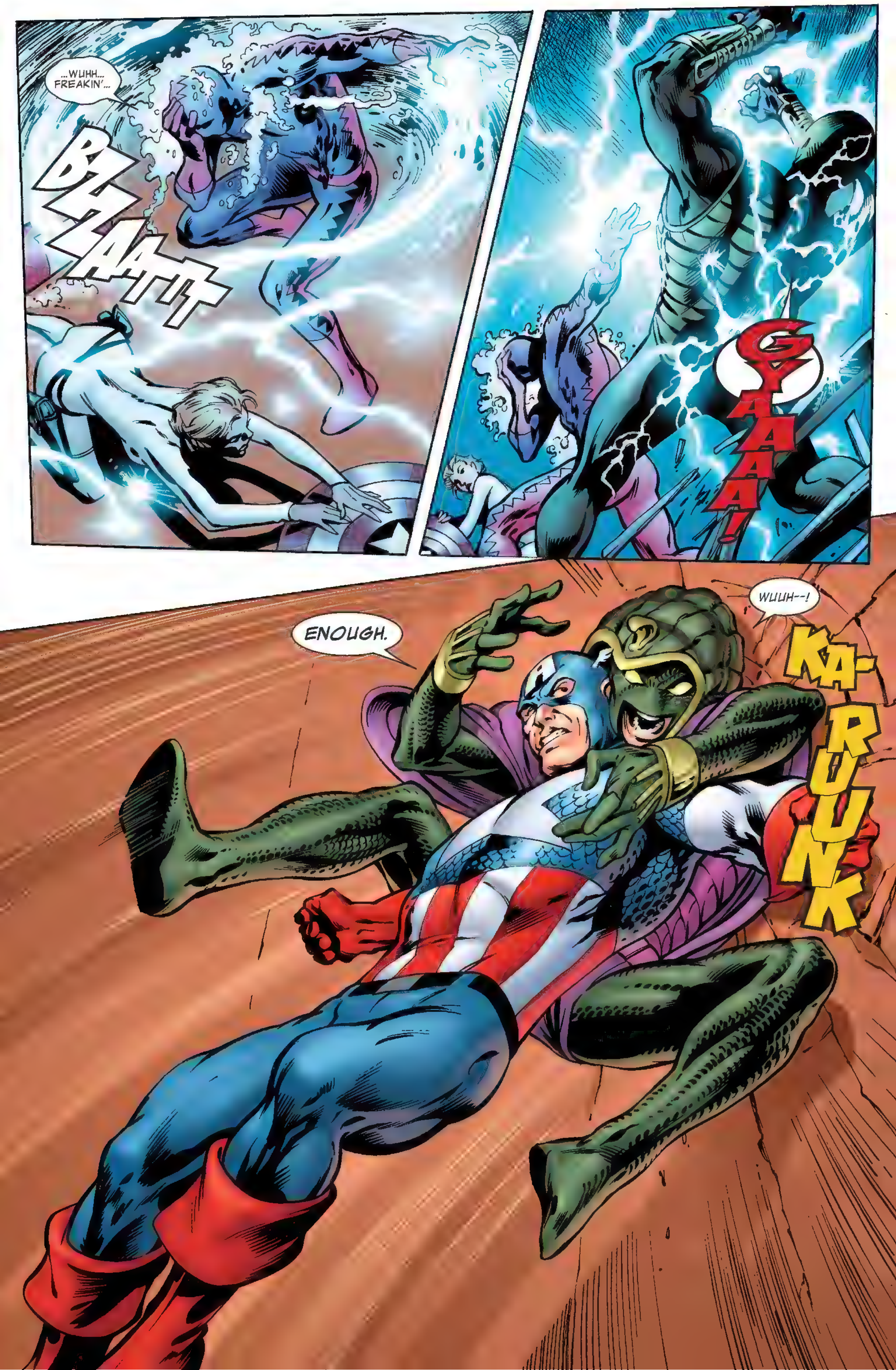
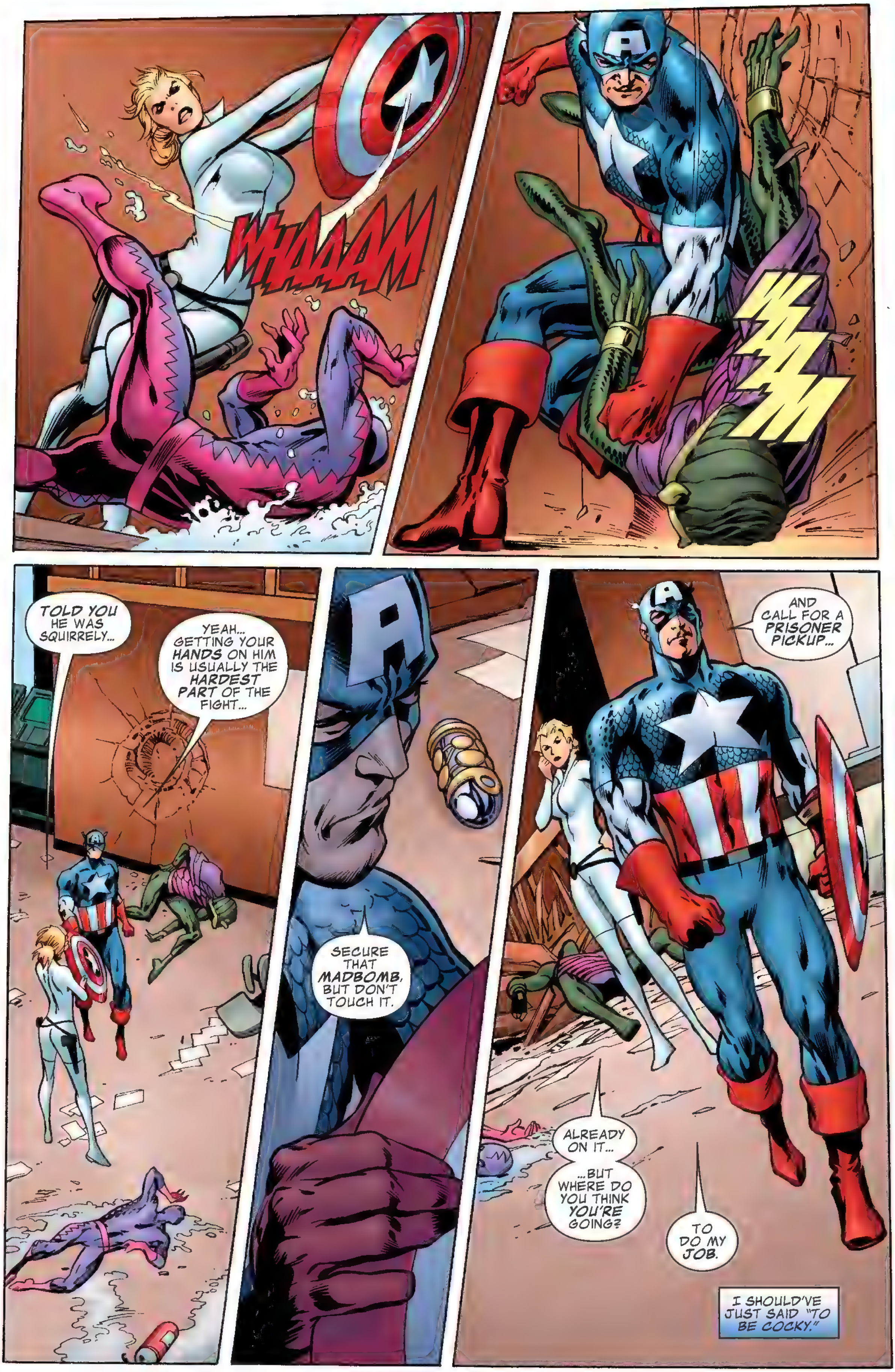

YESTERDAY, I GOT A REMINDER OF WHO I USED TO BE...
A REMINDER OF HOW *POWERLESS* SO MANY OF US FEEL...
...BUT THIS *ISN'T* YESTERDAY.
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM
FRRZZZAATT
KRAKK
KRSSSH
AND IN THE THICK OF BATTLE...
UTT--!

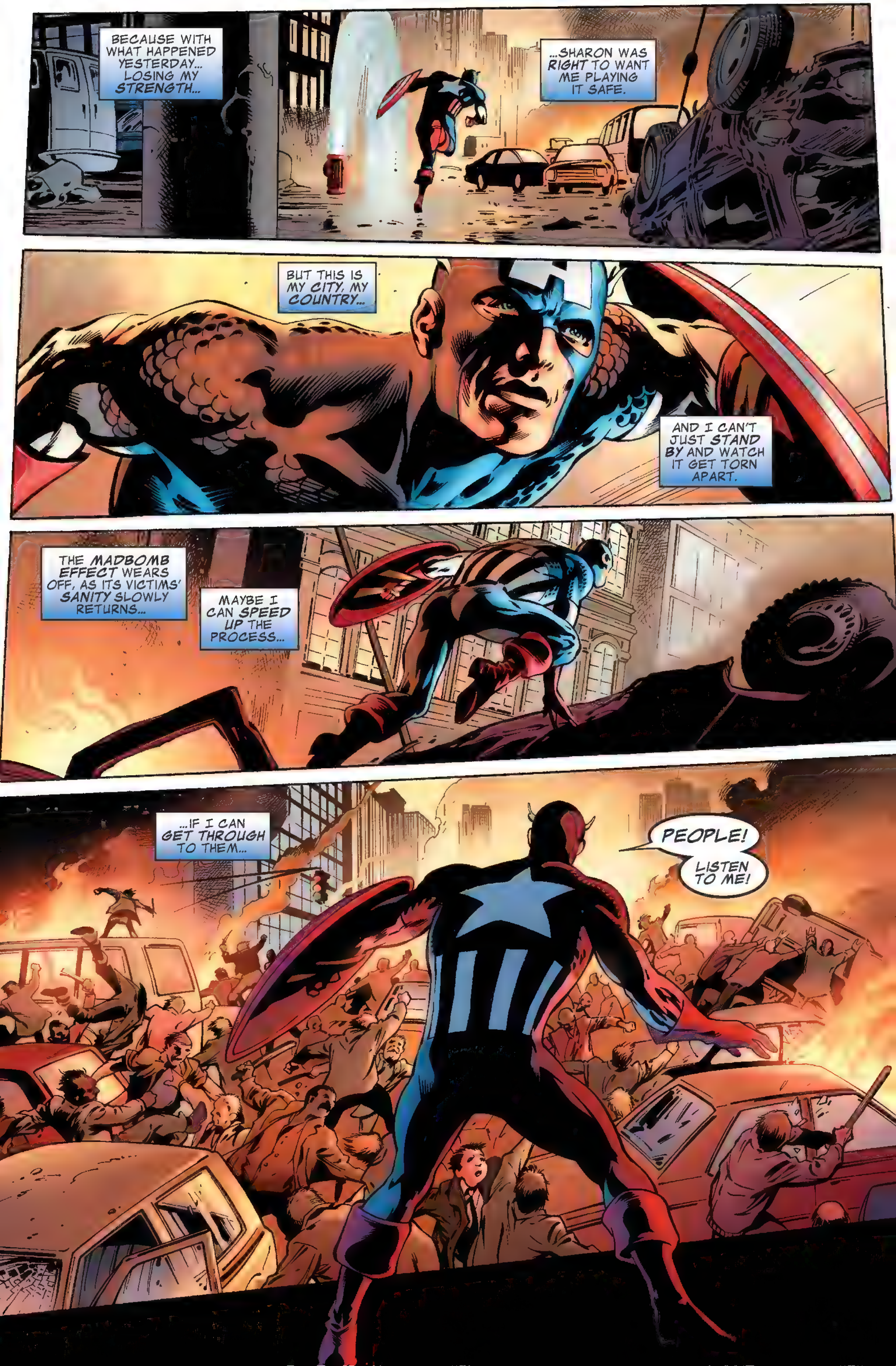

...I'VE RARELY HAD ANY DOUBTS.
GET THE HOSTAGES OUT, SHARON!
YOU HEARD THE MAN, PEOPLE-- MOVE IT!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
AND DON'T STOP RUNNING UNTIL YOU'RE CLEAR OF THE RIOTS!
KSSH
KNNCH
KSSH
CLIK
CLIK
CLIK
STEVE, I'M OUT OF AMMO! COBRA'S TOO DAMN SQUIRRELY!

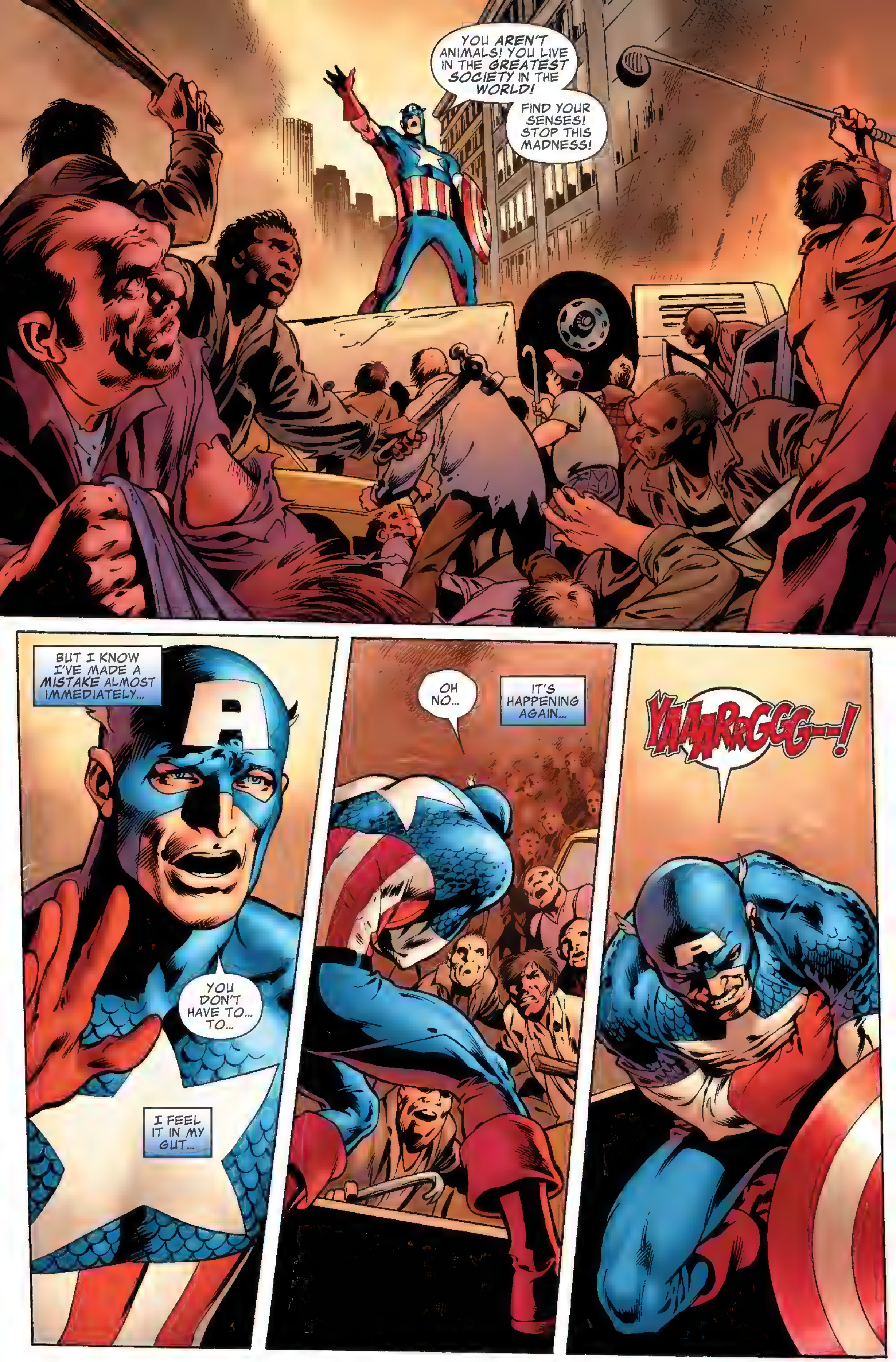

JUST GET TO COVER! I CAN TAKE THEM BOTH!
FRRZZZATTT
NOT WITHOUT YOUR MIGHTY SHIELD, CAPTAIN...
AHH!
SUCK MY VOLTAGE.
KRRZZZAATTT
YAAAAIIEEEE--!

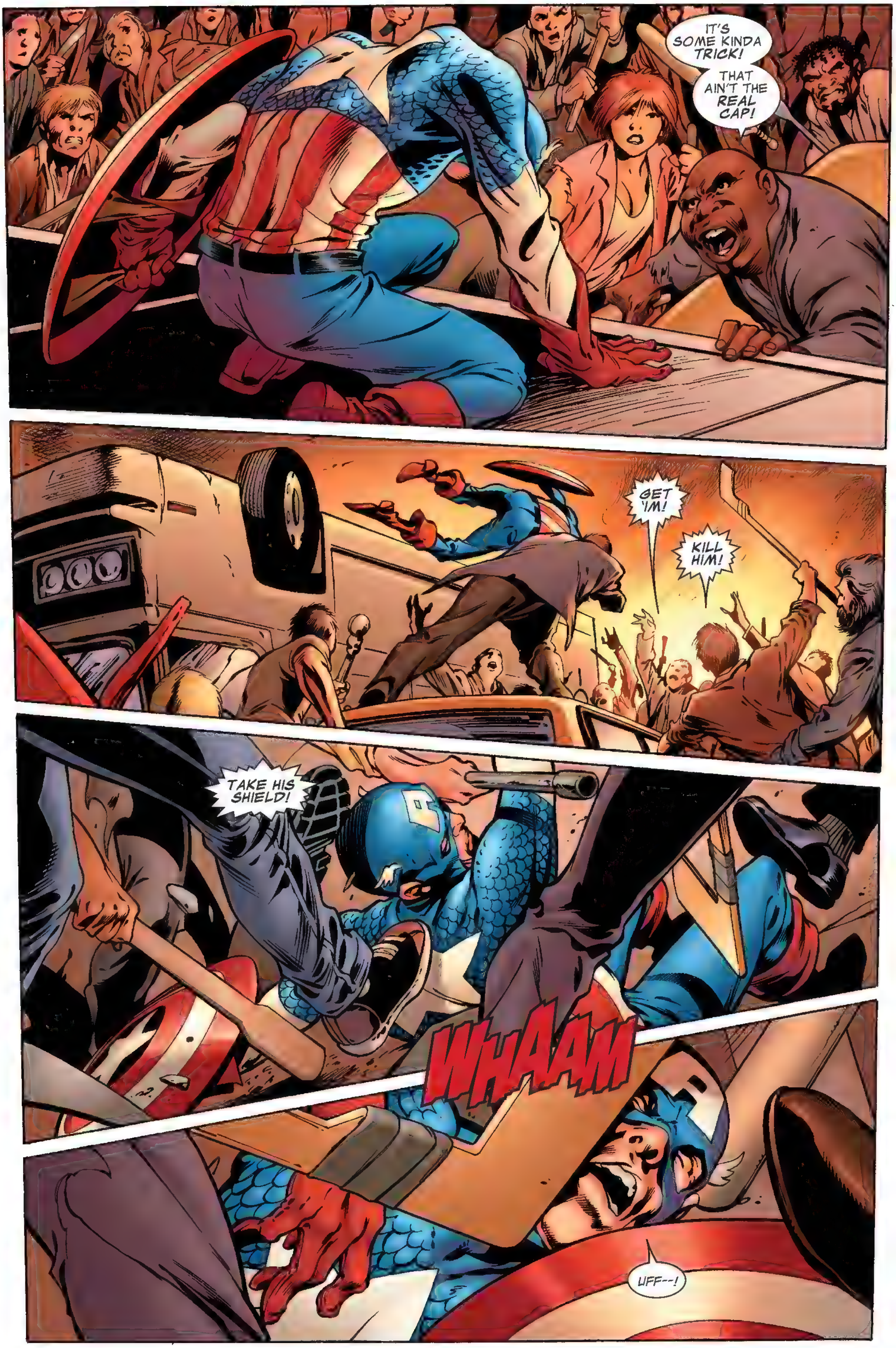

HOW ABOUT YOU SUCK ON THIS, EEL!
FOOOSH
HAKK! HAKK!
FREAKIN' SNEAKY LITTLE--
WHAAK
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO STILL BE WEAK!
BUT WE CAN WORK AROUND IT!
KRAANG
YOU WERE NEVER THAT TOUGH, ANYWAY!
GGGG...

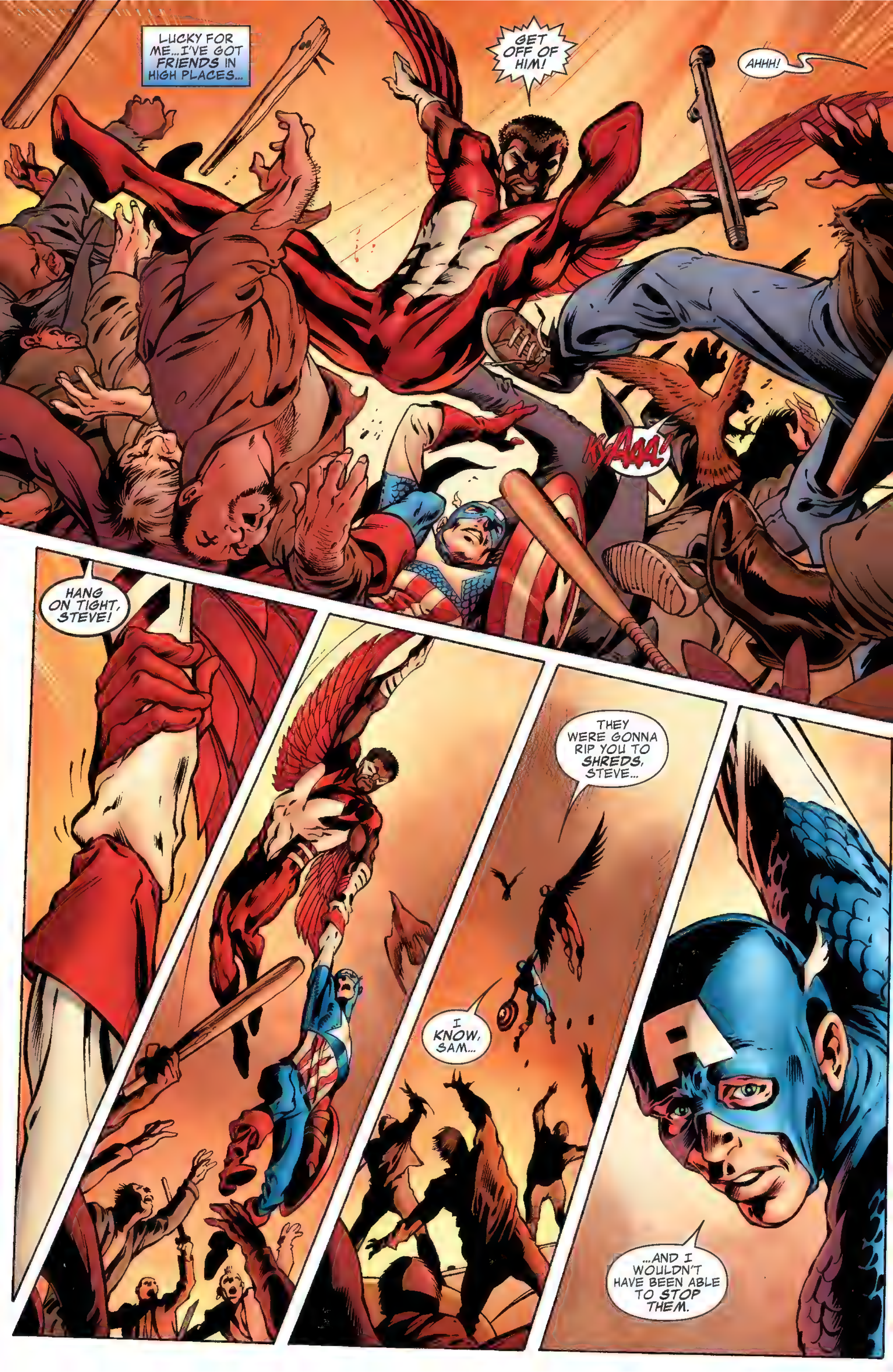

...WUHH... FREAKIN'...
BZZAATTT
GYAAAA!
ENOUGH.
WUUH--!
KA-RUNK

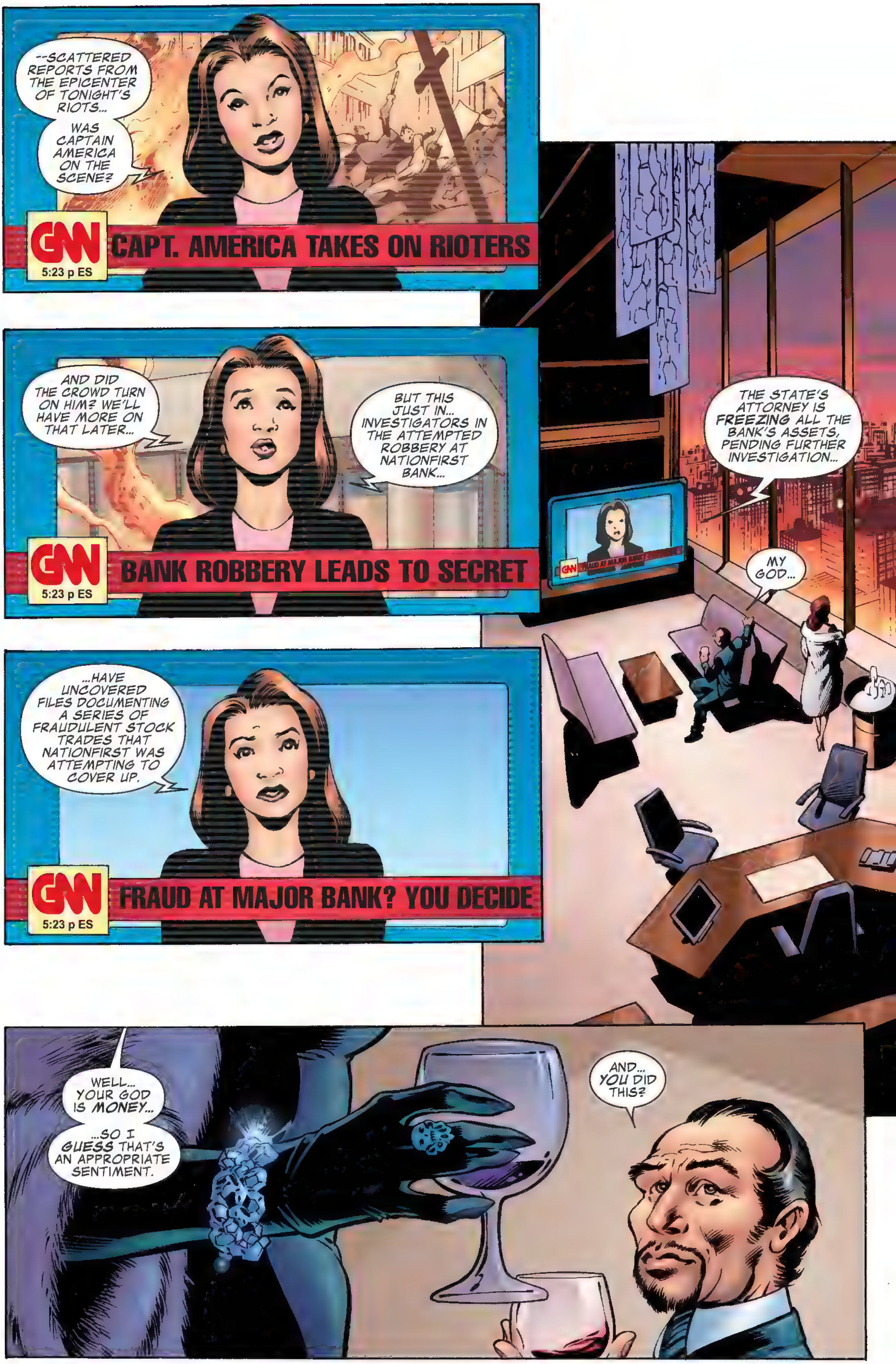

WHAAAM
WHAM
TOLD YOU HE WAS SQUIRRELY...
YEAH... GETTING YOUR HANDS ON HIM IS USUALLY THE HARDEST PART OF THE FIGHT...
SECURE THAT MADBOMB, BUT DON'T TOUCH IT.
AND CALL FOR A PRISONER PICKUP...
ALREADY ON IT...
...BUT WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
TO DO MY JOB.
I SHOULD'VE JUST SAID "TO BE COCKY."

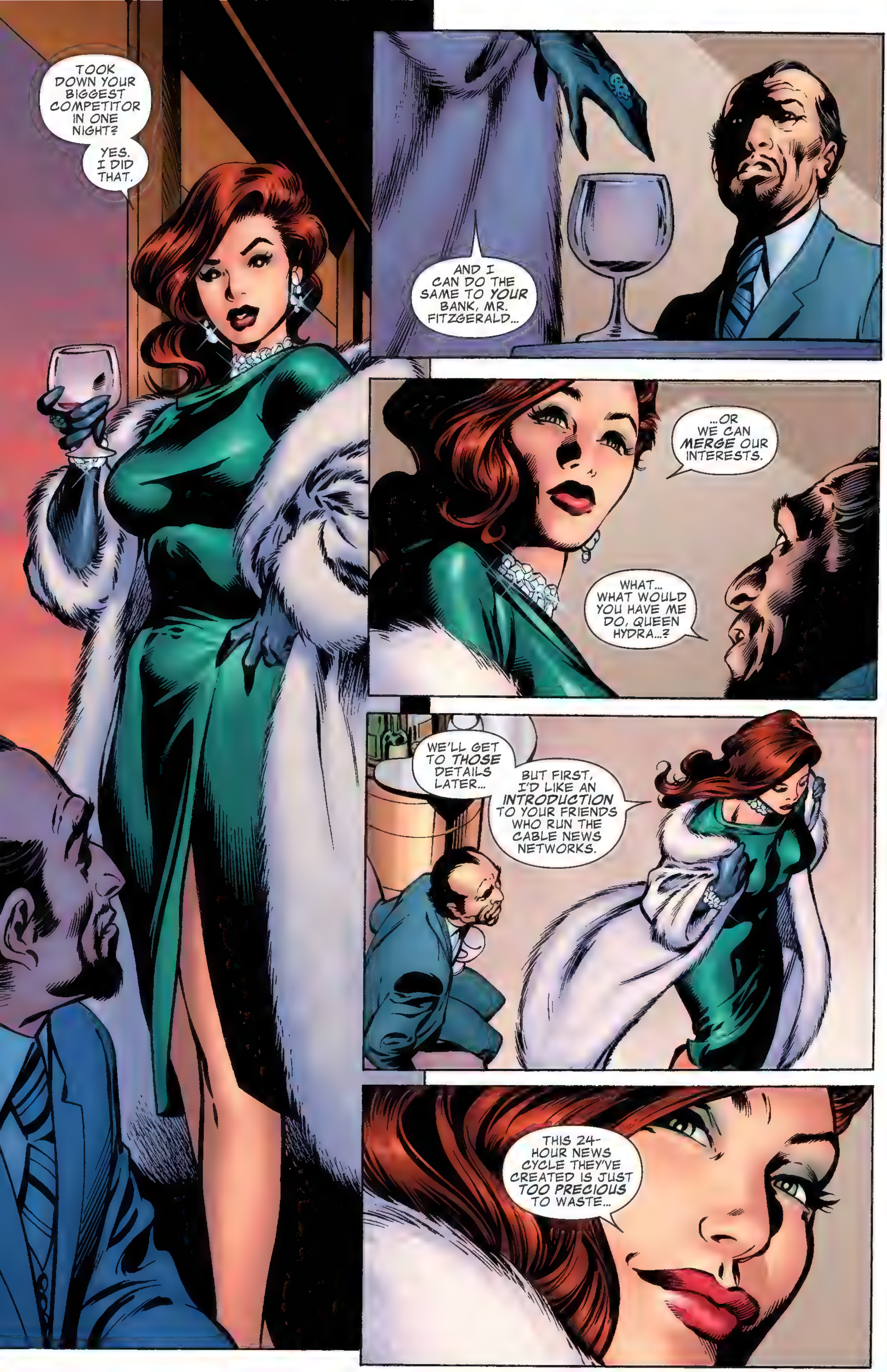

BECAUSE WITH WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY... LOSING MY STRENGTH...
...SHARON WAS RIGHT TO WANT ME PLAYING IT SAFE.
BUT THIS IS MY CITY, MY COUNTRY...
AND I CAN'T JUST STAND BY AND WATCH IT GET TORN APART.
THE MADBOMB EFFECT WEARS OFF, AS ITS VICTIMS' SANITY SLOWLY RETURNS...
MAYBE I CAN SPEED UP THE PROCESS...
...IF I CAN GET THROUGH TO THEM...
PEOPLE!
LISTEN TO ME!

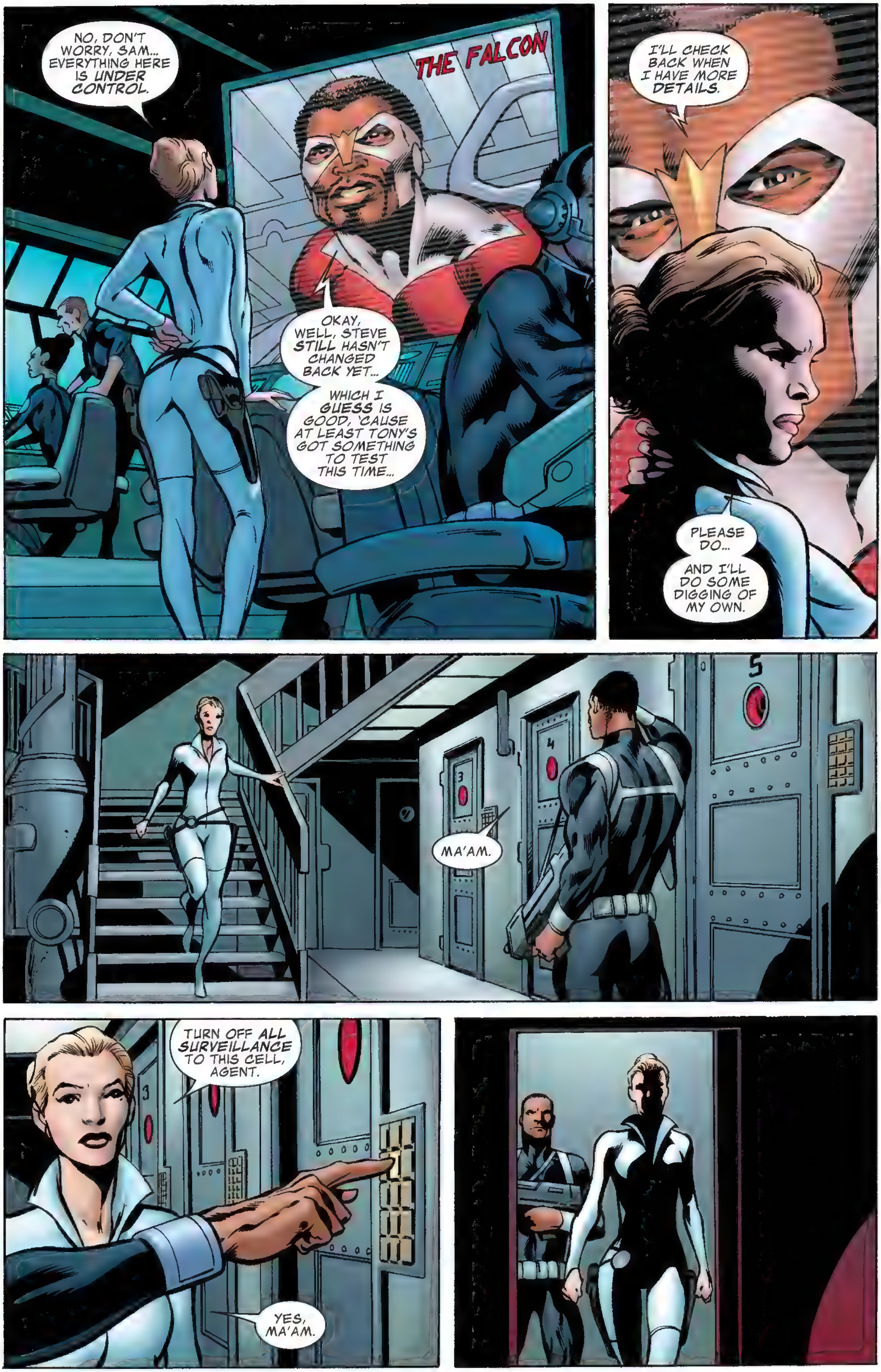

YOU *AREN'T* ANIMALS! YOU LIVE IN THE *GREATEST SOCIETY* IN THE *WORLD!*
FIND YOUR SENSES! STOP THIS MADNESS!
BUT I KNOW I'VE MADE A *MISTAKE* ALMOST IMMEDIATELY...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO... TO...
I FEEL IT IN MY GUT...
OH NO...
IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN...
YAAARRGGG--!

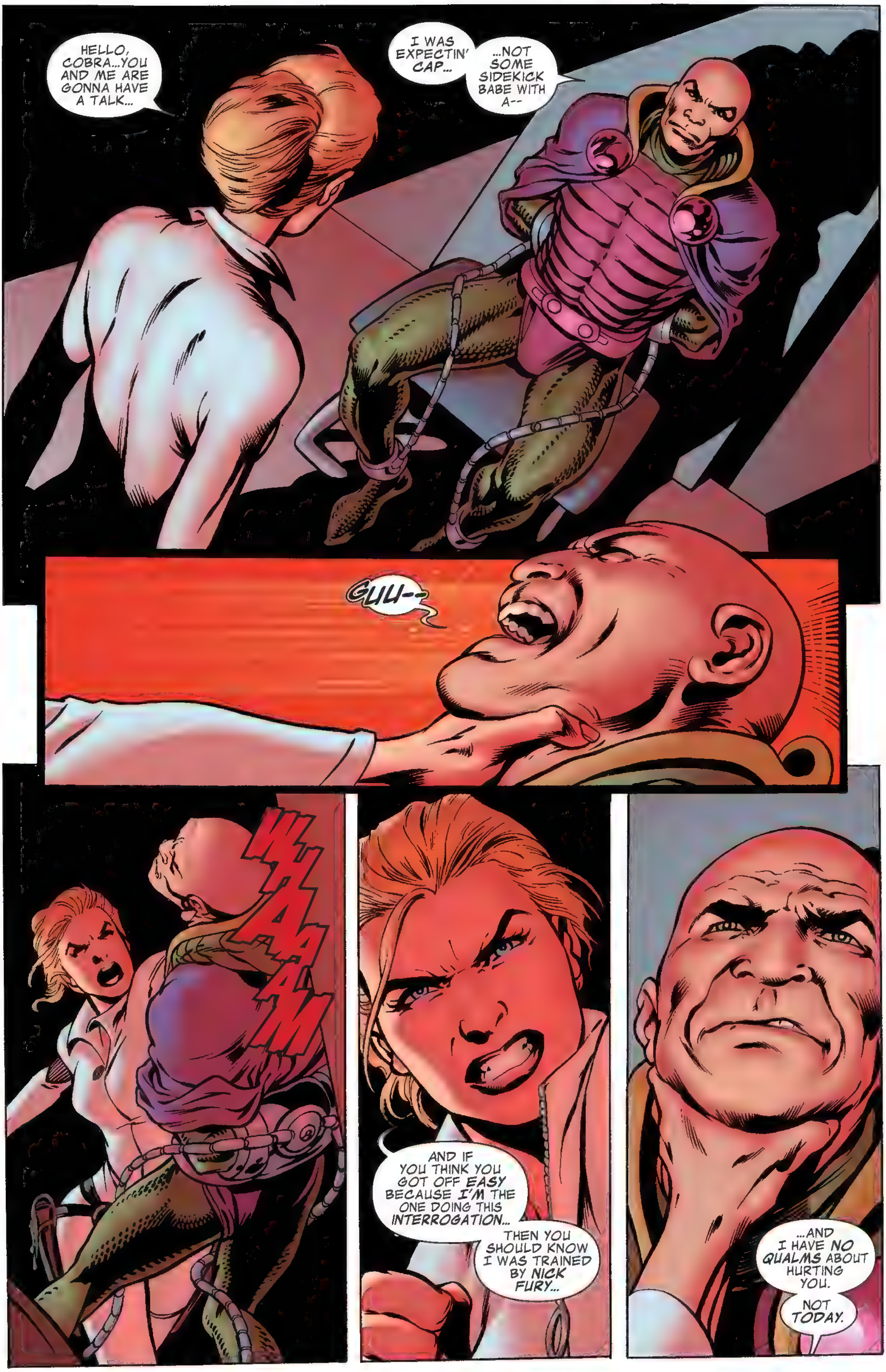

IT'S SOME KINDA TRICK!
THAT AIN'T THE REAL CAP!
GET 'IM!
KILL HIM!
TAKE HIS SHIELD!
WHAAM
UFF--!

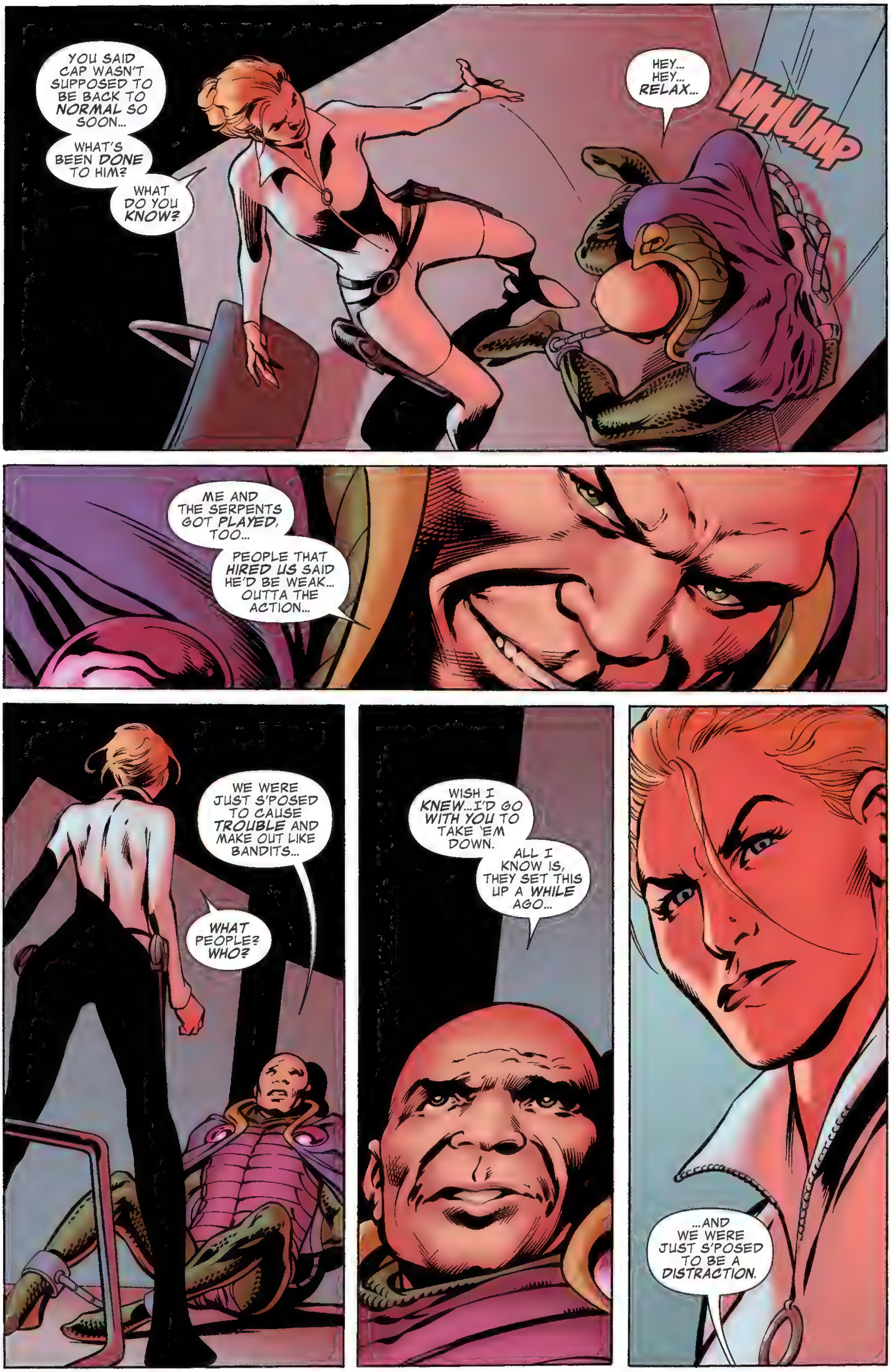

LUCKY FOR ME...I'VE GOT FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES...
GET OFF OF HIM!
AHHH!
KYAAA!
HANG ON TIGHT, STEVE!
THEY WERE GONNA RIP YOU TO SHREDS, STEVE...
I KNOW, SAM...
...AND I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO STOP THEM.

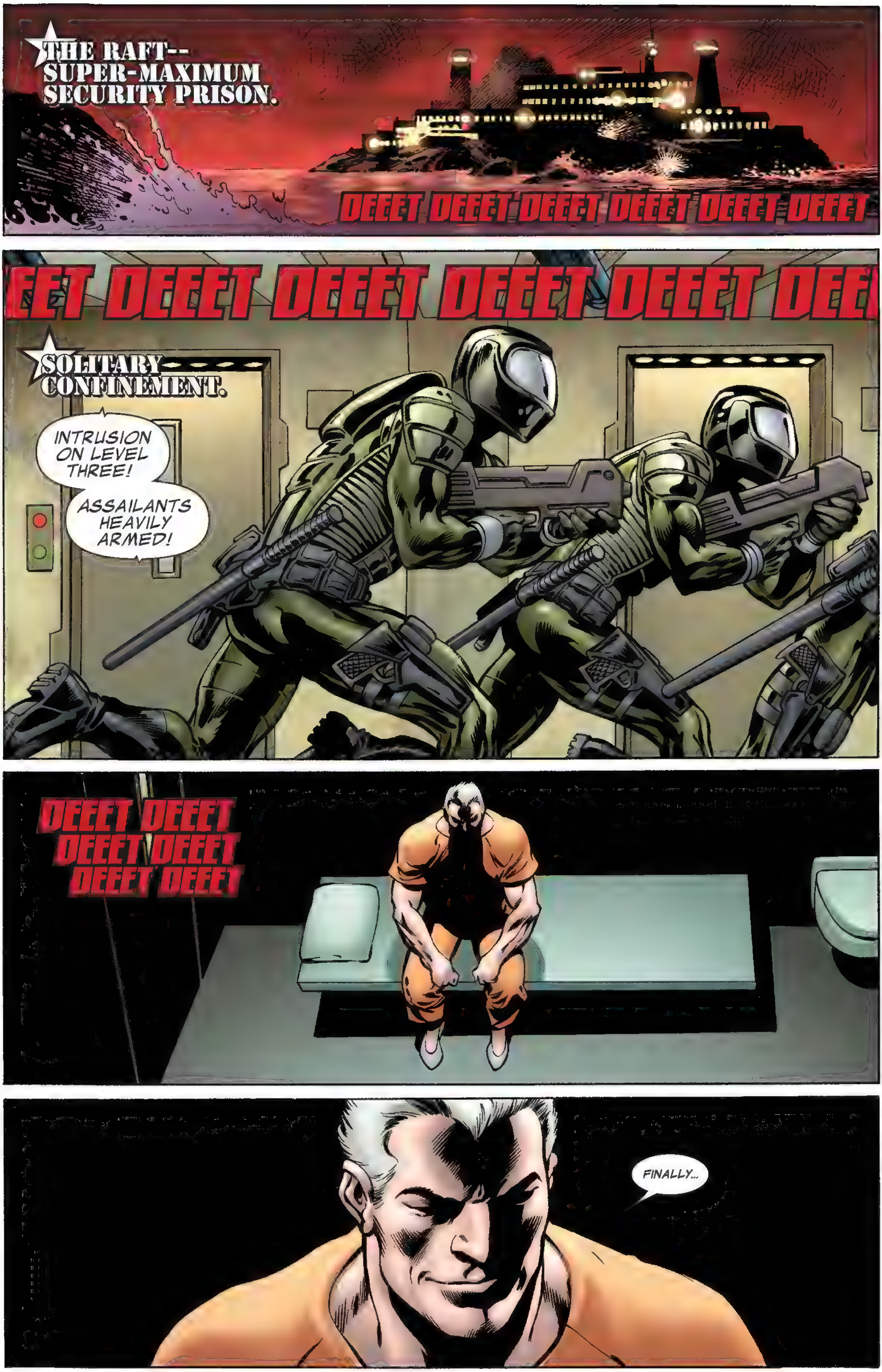

--SCATTERED REPORTS FROM THE EPICENTER OF TONIGHT'S RIOTS...
WAS CAPTAIN AMERICA ON THE SCENE?
CNN
5:23 p ES
CAPT. AMERICA TAKES ON RIOTERS
AND DID THE CROWD TURN ON HIM? WE'LL HAVE MORE ON THAT LATER...
BUT THIS JUST IN... INVESTIGATORS IN THE ATTEMPTED ROBBERY AT NATIONFIRST BANK...
CNN
5:23 p ES
BANK ROBBERY LEADS TO SECRET
...HAVE UNCOVERED FILES DOCUMENTING A SERIES OF FRAUDULENT STOCK TRADES THAT NATIONFIRST WAS ATTEMPTING TO COVER UP.
CNN
5:23 p ES
FRAUD AT MAJOR BANK? YOU DECIDE
THE STATE'S ATTORNEY IS **FREEZING** ALL THE BANK'S ASSETS, PENDING FURTHER INVESTIGATION...
MY GOD...
WELL... YOUR GOD IS *MONEY*...
...SO I GUESS THAT'S AN APPROPRIATE SENTIMENT.
AND... *YOU* DID THIS?

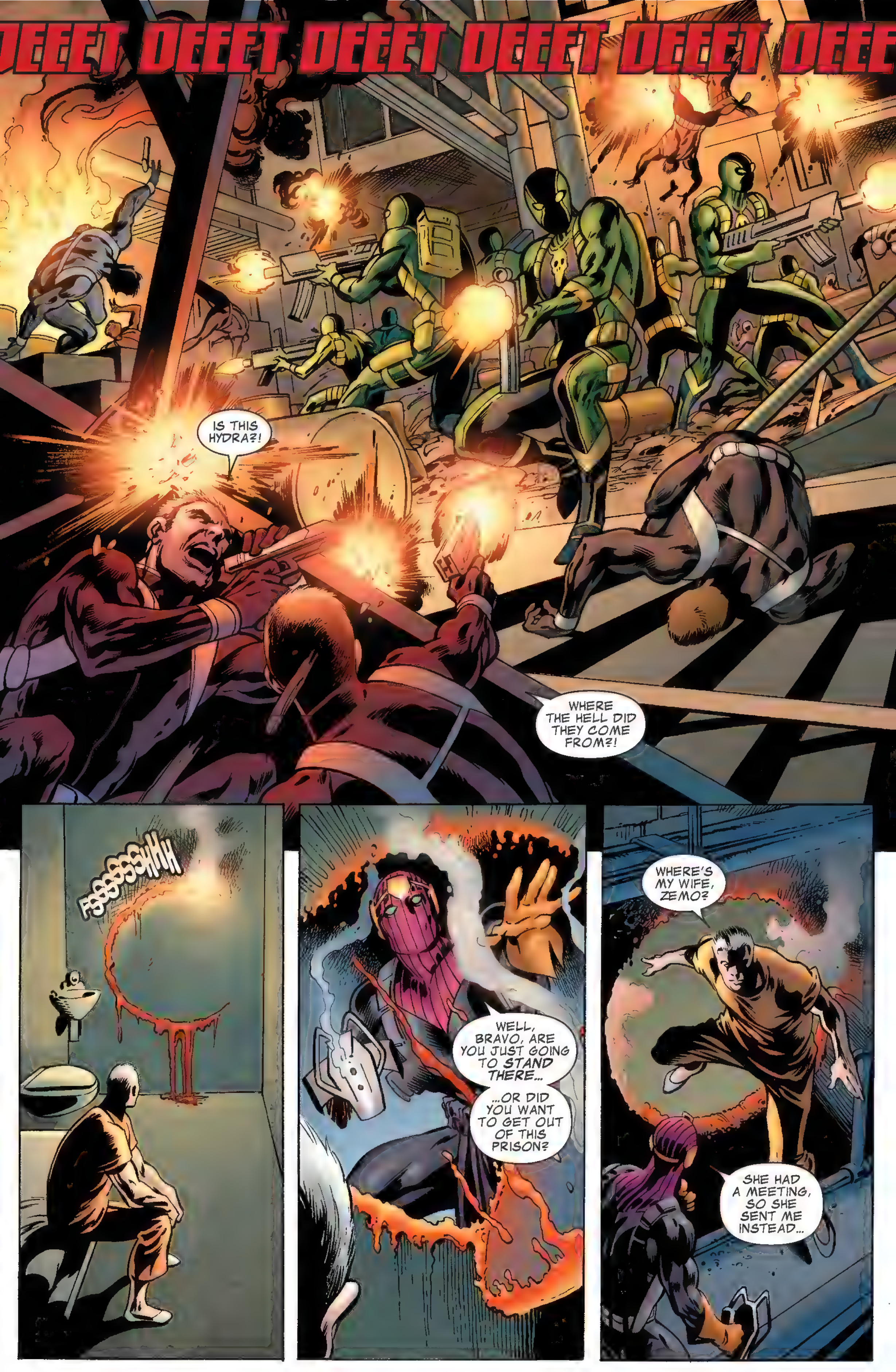

TOOK DOWN YOUR BIGGEST COMPETITOR IN ONE NIGHT?
YES. I DID THAT.
AND I CAN DO THE SAME TO YOUR BANK, MR. FITZGERALD...
...OR WE CAN MERGE OUR INTERESTS.
WHAT... WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO, QUEEN HYDRA...?
WE'LL GET TO THOSE DETAILS LATER...
BUT FIRST, I'D LIKE AN INTRODUCTION TO YOUR FRIENDS WHO RUN THE CABLE NEWS NETWORKS.
THIS 24-HOUR NEWS CYCLE THEY'VE CREATED IS JUST TOO PRECIOUS TO WASTE...

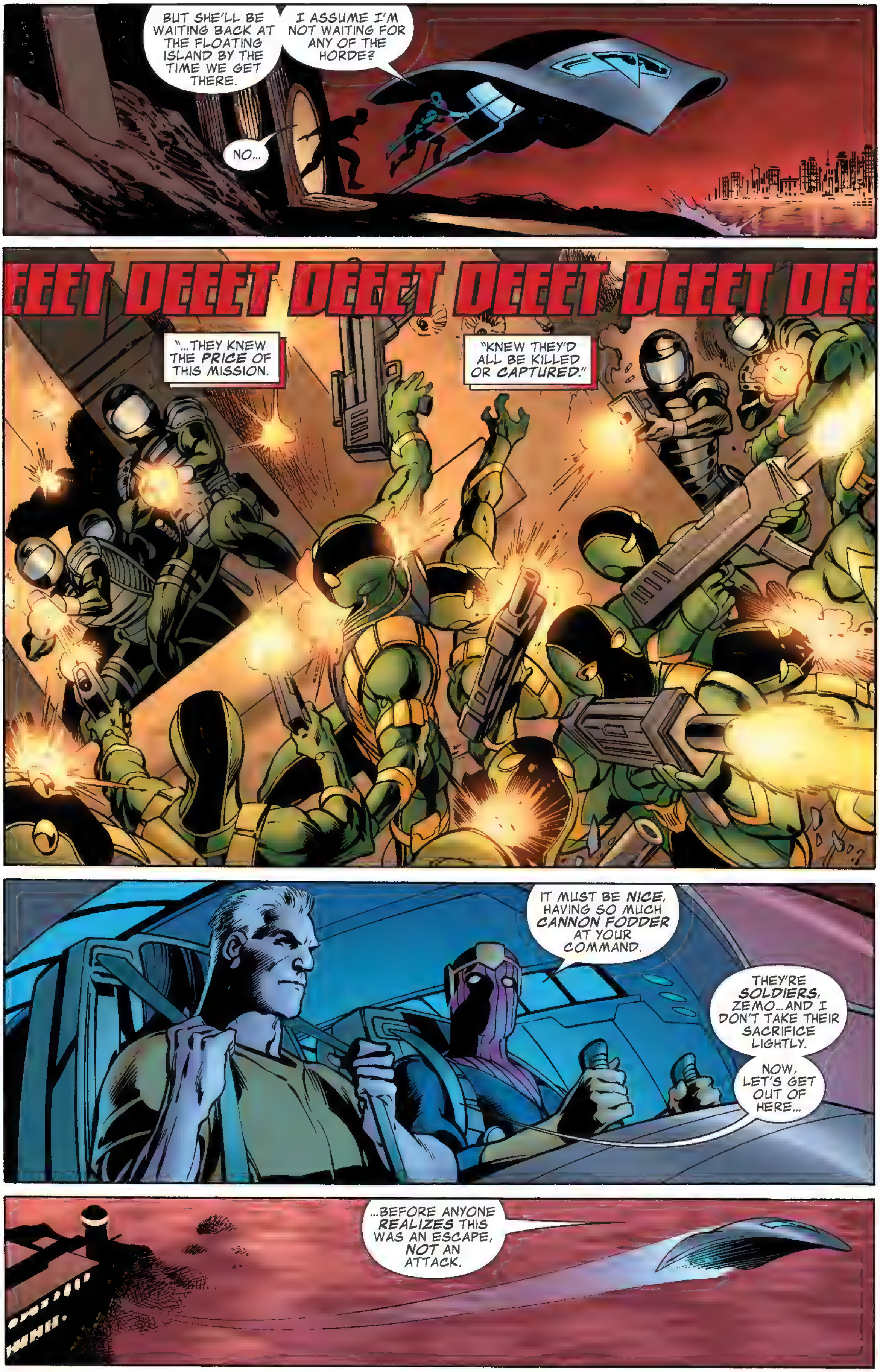

NO, DON'T WORRY, SAM... EVERYTHING HERE IS *UNDER CONTROL.*
THE FALCON
OKAY, WELL, STEVE **STILL** HASN'T CHANGED BACK YET...
WHICH I **GUESS** IS GOOD, 'CAUSE AT LEAST TONY'S GOT SOMETHING TO TEST THIS TIME...
I'LL CHECK BACK WHEN I HAVE MORE DETAILS.
PLEASE DO...
AND I'LL DO SOME DIGGING OF MY OWN.
MA'AM.
TURN OFF *ALL SURVEILLANCE* TO THIS CELL, AGENT.
YES, MA'AM.

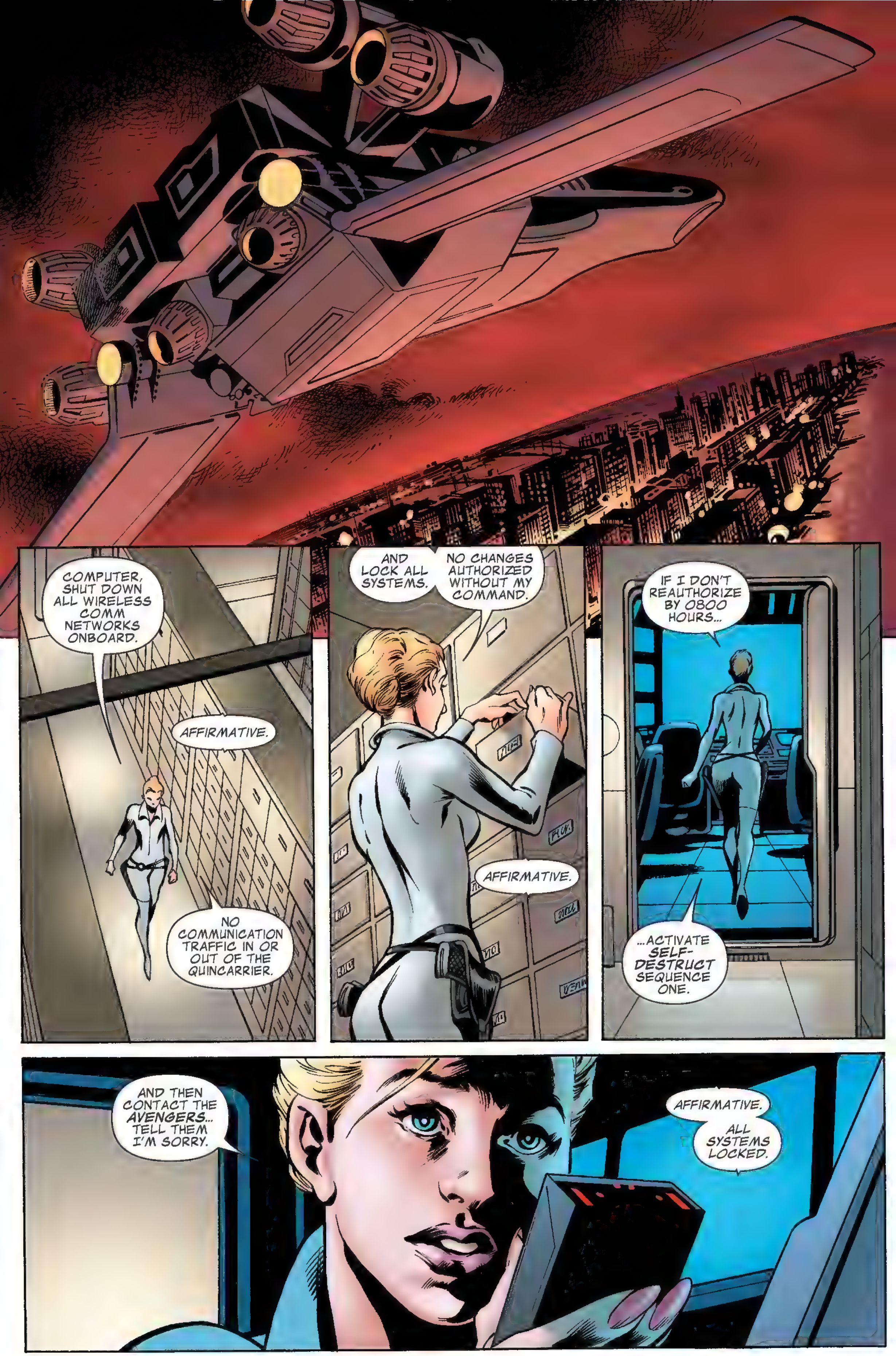

HELLO, COBRA...YOU AND ME ARE GONNA HAVE A TALK...
I WAS EXPECTIN' CAP...
...NOT SOME SIDEKICK BABE WITH A--
GUU--
WHAAAM
AND IF YOU THINK YOU GOT OFF EASY BECAUSE I'M THE ONE DOING THIS INTERROGATION...
THEN YOU SHOULD KNOW I WAS TRAINED BY NICK FURY...
...AND I HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT HURTING YOU.
NOT TODAY.

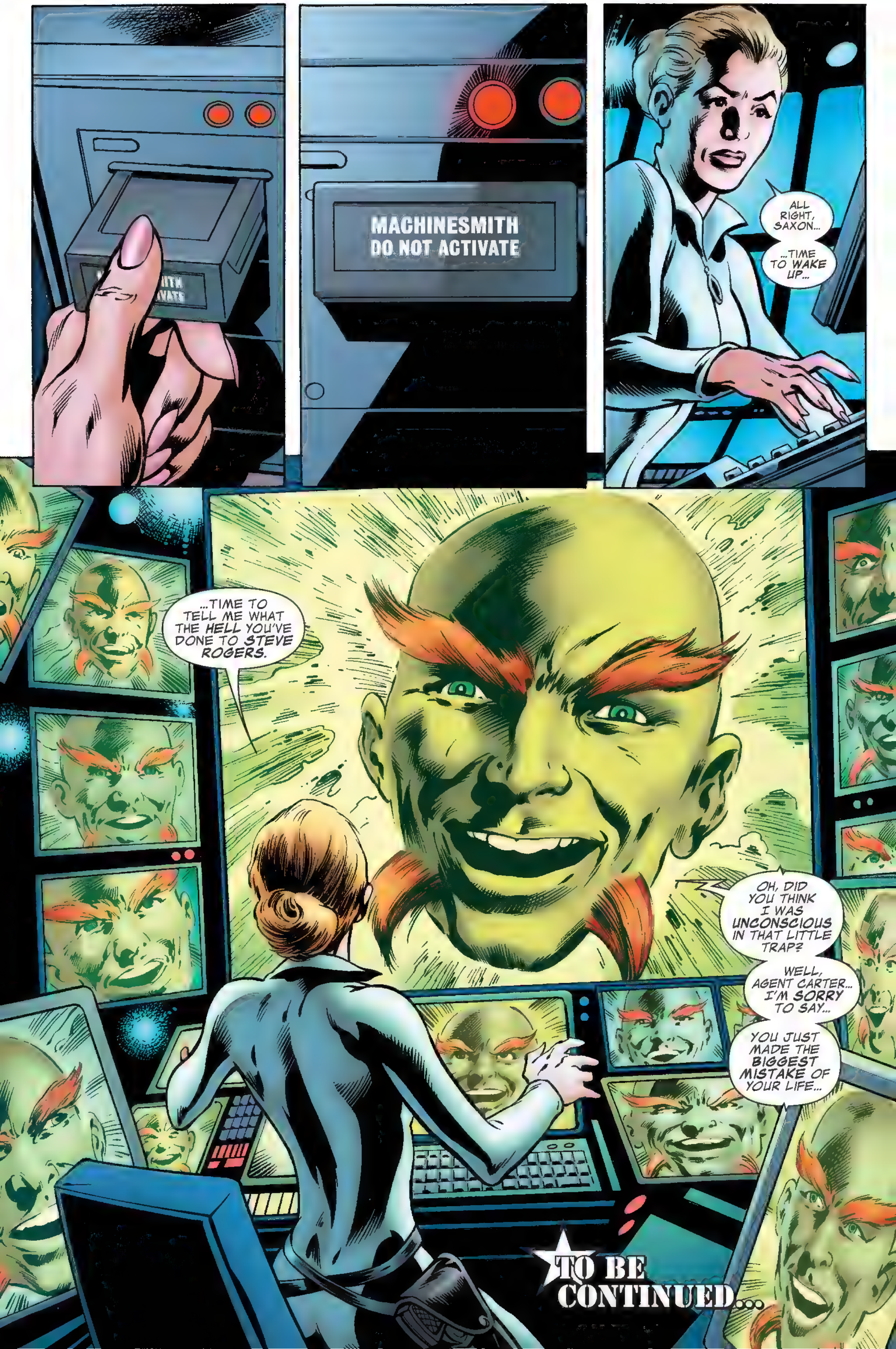

YOU SAID CAP WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE BACK TO NORMAL SO SOON...
WHAT'S BEEN DONE TO HIM?
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
HEY... HEY... RELAX...
WHUMP
ME AND THE SERPENTS GOT PLAYED, TOO...
PEOPLE THAT HIRED US SAID HE'D BE WEAK... OUTTA THE ACTION...
WE WERE JUST S'POSED TO CAUSE TROUBLE AND MAKE OUT LIKE BANDITS...
WHAT PEOPLE? WHO?
WISH I KNEW...I'D GO WITH YOU TO TAKE 'EM DOWN.
ALL I KNOW IS, THEY SET THIS UP A WHILE AGO...
...AND WE WERE JUST S'POSED TO BE A DISTRACTION.


THE RAFT-- SUPER-MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON.
DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET
EET DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET DEE
SOLITARY CONFINEMENT.
INTRUSION ON LEVEL THREE!
ASSAILANTS HEAVILY ARMED!
DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET
FINALLY...


DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEE
IS THIS HYDRA?!
WHERE THE HELL DID THEY COME FROM?!
FSSSSSSHHH
WELL, BRAVO, ARE YOU JUST GOING TO *STAND THERE*...
...OR DID YOU WANT TO GET OUT OF THIS PRISON?
WHERE'S MY WIFE, ZEMO?
SHE HAD A MEETING, SO SHE SENT ME INSTEAD...


BUT SHE'LL BE WAITING BACK AT THE FLOATING ISLAND BY THE TIME WE GET THERE.
I ASSUME I'M NOT WAITING FOR ANY OF THE HORDE?
NO...
EEET DEEET DEEET DEEET DEEET DE
"...THEY KNEW THE PRICE OF THIS MISSION.
"KNEW THEY'D ALL BE KILLED OR CAPTURED."
IT MUST BE NICE, HAVING SO MUCH CANNON FODDER AT YOUR COMMAND.
THEY'RE SOLDIERS, ZEMO...AND I DON'T TAKE THEIR SACRIFICE LIGHTLY.
NOW, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE...
...BEFORE ANYONE REALIZES THIS WAS AN ESCAPE, NOT AN ATTACK.


COMPUTER, SHUT DOWN ALL WIRELESS COMM NETWORKS ONBOARD.
AFFIRMATIVE.
NO COMMUNICATION TRAFFIC IN OR OUT OF THE QUINCARRIER.
AND LOCK ALL SYSTEMS.
NO CHANGES AUTHORIZED WITHOUT MY COMMAND.
AFFIRMATIVE.
IF I DON'T REAUTHORIZE BY 0800 HOURS...
...ACTIVATE SELF-DESTRUCT SEQUENCE ONE.
AND THEN CONTACT THE AVENGERS... TELL THEM I'M SORRY.
AFFIRMATIVE.
ALL SYSTEMS LOCKED.


MACHINESMITH
DO NOT ACTIVATE
ALL RIGHT, SAXON...
...TIME TO WAKE UP...
...TIME TO TELL ME WHAT THE HELL YOU'VE DONE TO STEVE ROGERS.
OH, DID YOU THINK I WAS UNCONSCIOUS IN THAT LITTLE TRAP?
WELL, AGENT CARTER... I'M SORRY TO SAY...
YOU JUST MADE THE BIGGEST MISTAKE OF YOUR LIFE...
TO BE CONTINUED...

SHATTERED HEROES

MARVEL
9

CAPTAIN AMERICA

BRUBAKER
DAVIS
FARMER
MARTIN

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DURING THE DARK DAYS OF THE EARLY 1940S, A COVERT MILITARY EXPERIMENT TURNED STEVE ROGERS INTO AMERICA'S FIRST SUPER-SOLDIER, CAPTAIN AMERICA. THROUGHOUT THE WAR, CAP AND HIS PARTNER BUCKY FOUGHT ALONGSIDE OUR INFANTRY AND WITH A GROUP OF HEROES KNOWN AS THE INVADERS. IN THE CLOSING MONTHS OF WWII, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WERE BOTH PRESUMED DEAD IN AN EXPLOSION OVER THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

DECADES LATER, A FIGURE WAS FOUND TRAPPED IN ICE, AND CAPTAIN AMERICA WAS REVIVED. HAVING SLEPT THROUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE 20TH CENTURY, STEVE ROGERS AWAKENED TO A WORLD HE NEVER IMAGINED, A WORLD WHERE WAR HAD MOVED FROM THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE CITY STREETS... A WORLD IN DIRE NEED OF...

CAPTAIN AMERICA

POWERLESS PART 4

AN ATTACK ON THE SUPERHUMAN PENITENTIARY CALLED THE RAFT BY AGENTS OF THE NEW QUEEN HYDRA ENABLED THE ESCAPE OF THE QUEEN'S IMPRISONED ALLY, THE TIME-DISPLACED FORMER ALLIED OPERATIVE CALLED CODENAME BRAVO.

MEANWHILE, STEVE ROGERS' RECURRING DREAMS OF LOSING HIS SUPERHUMAN PHYSIQUE BECAME A DANGEROUS REALITY IN THE MIDST OF A RIOT STARTED BY HYDRA USING THE TECHNOLOGY OF THE MADNESS-INDUCING MADBOMBS.

ACTING ON HER OWN INITIATIVE, SHARON CARTER SOUGHT OUT THE LAST VILLAIN WHO WAS ABLE TO SUPPRESS CAPTAIN AMERICA'S POWERS: THE DIGITAL INTELLIGENCE KNOWN AS MACHINESMITH!

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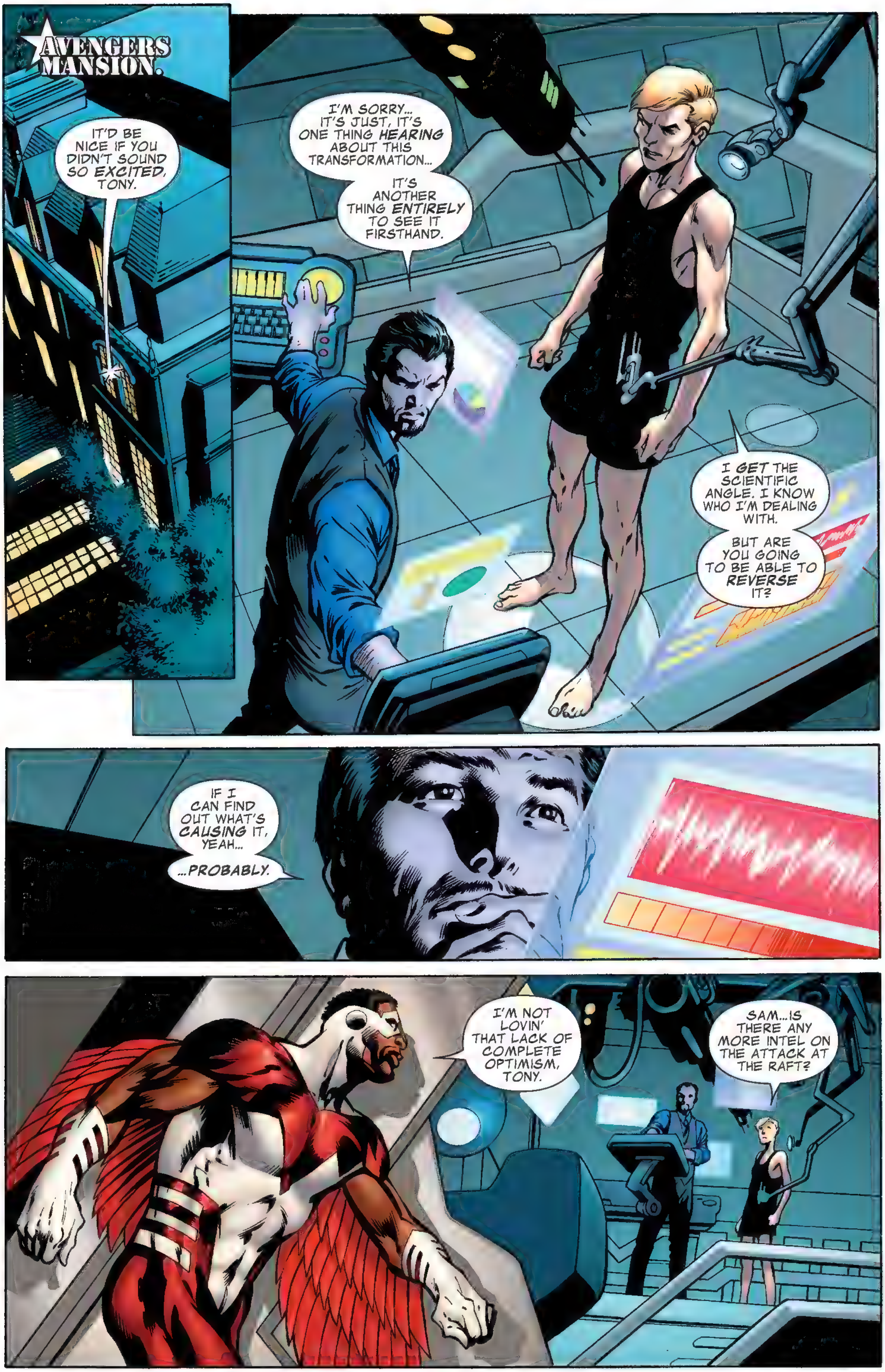
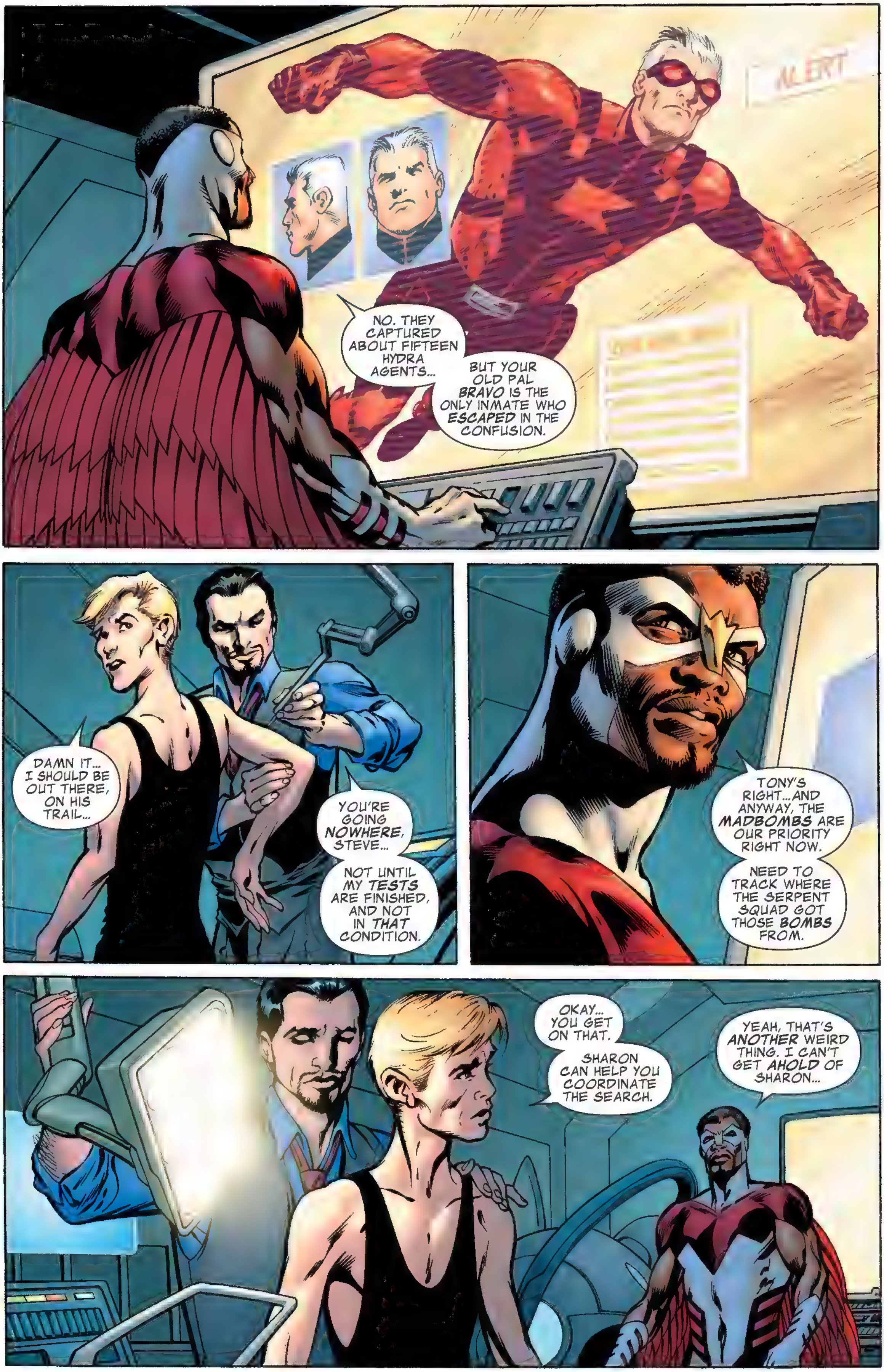
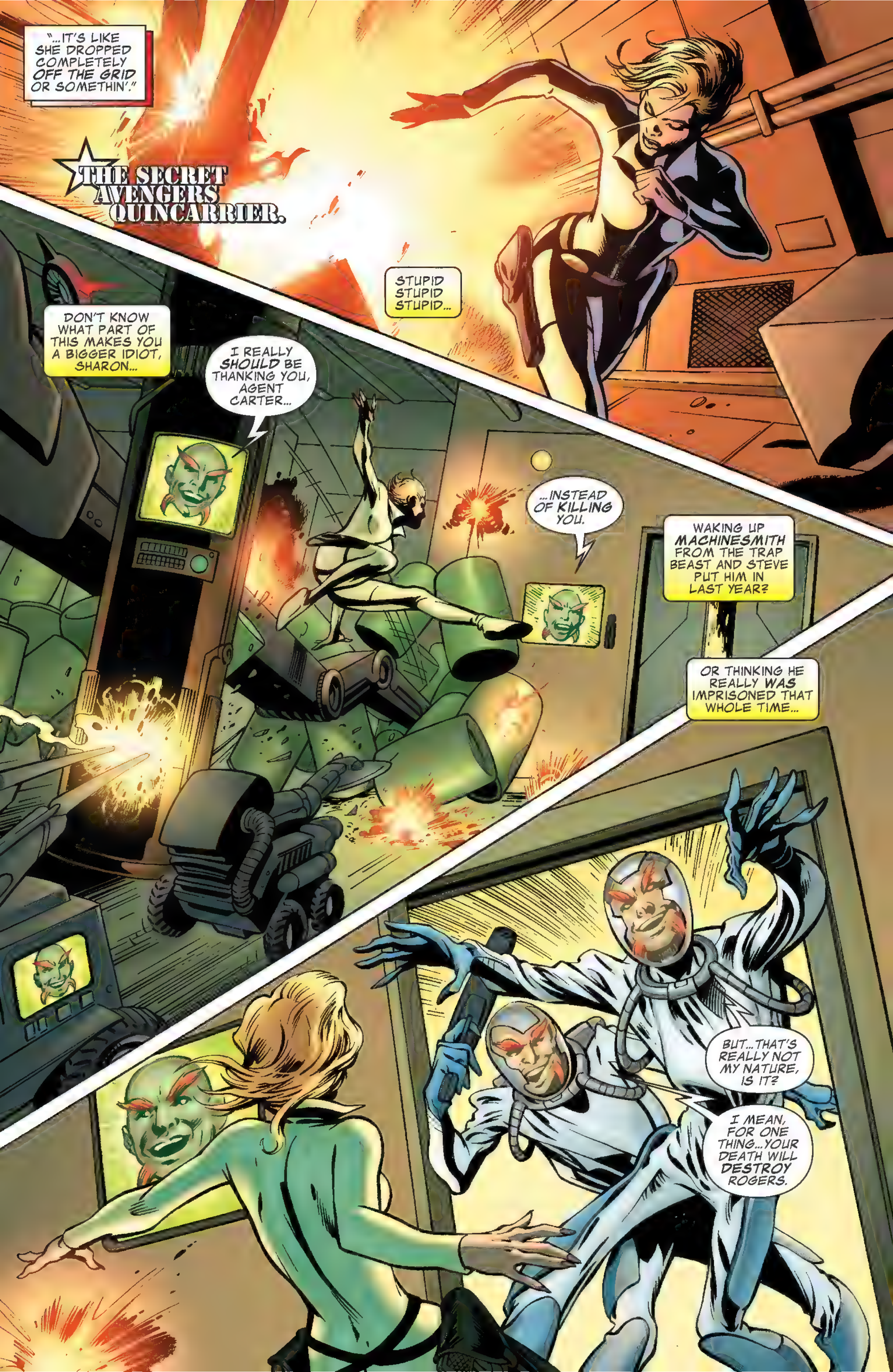
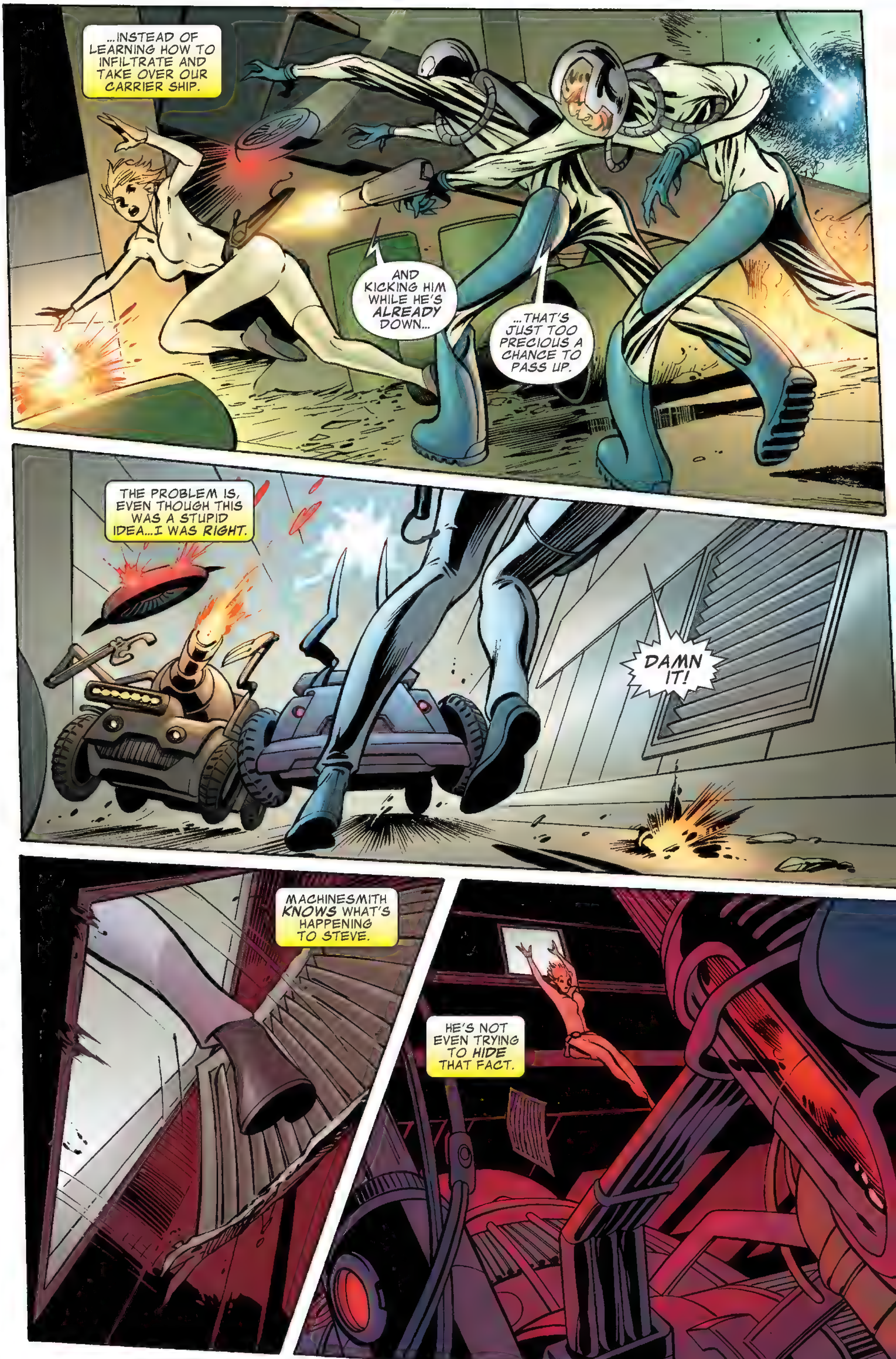
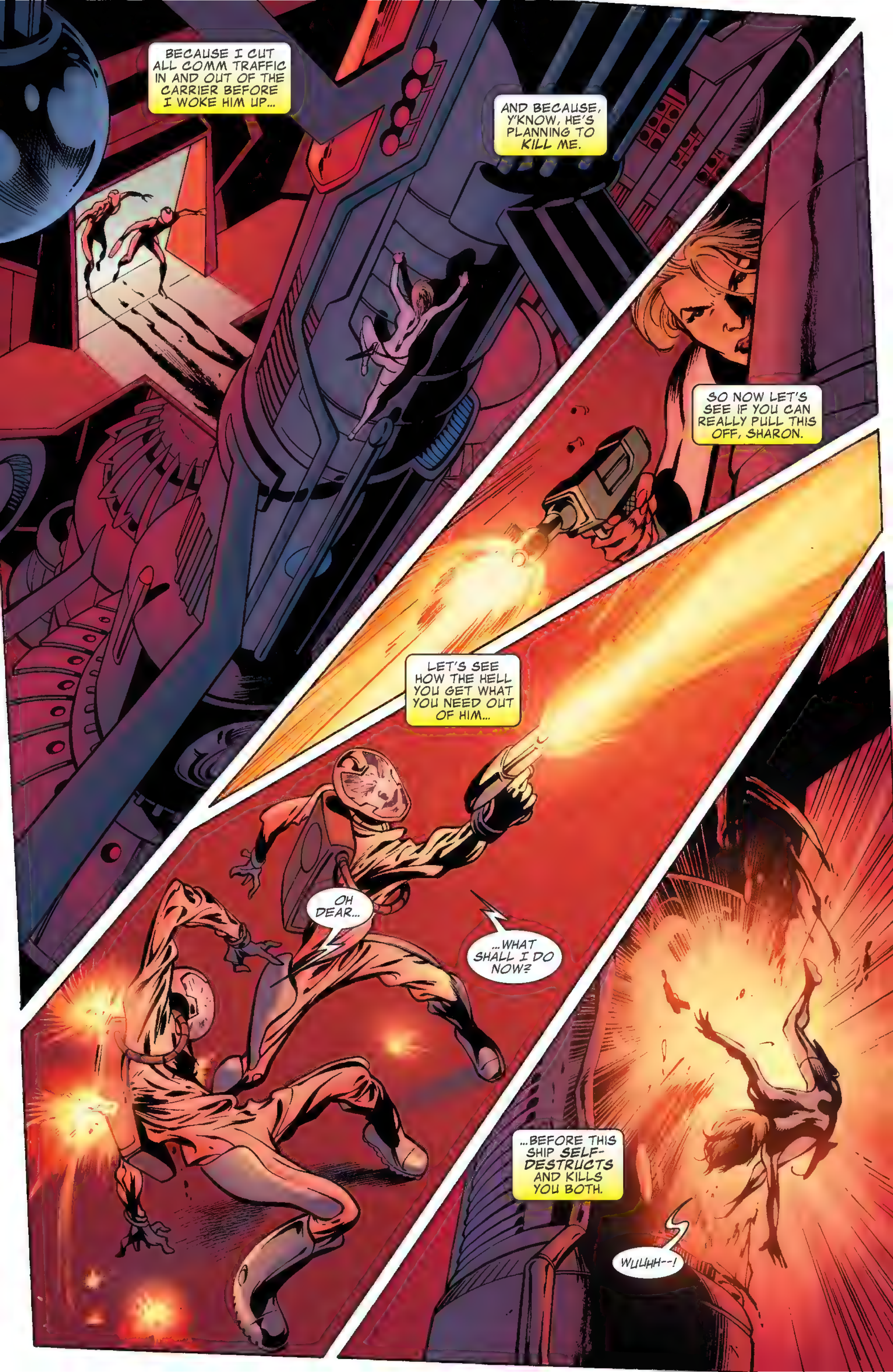
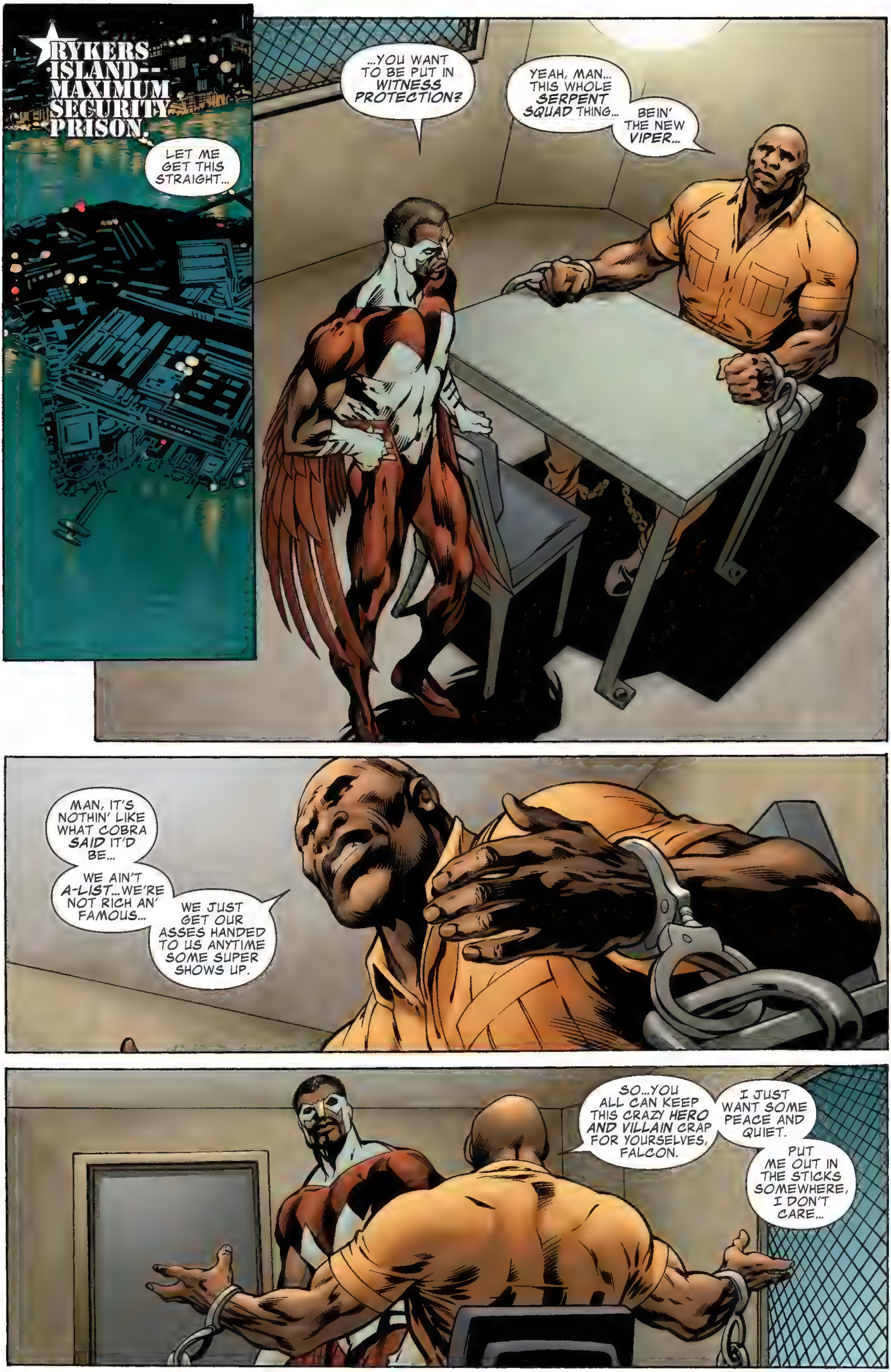

AVENGERS MANSION.
IT'D BE NICE IF YOU DIDN'T SOUND SO EXCITED, TONY.
I'M SORRY... IT'S JUST, IT'S ONE THING HEARING ABOUT THIS TRANSFORMATION...
IT'S ANOTHER THING ENTIRELY TO SEE IT FIRSTHAND.
I GET THE SCIENTIFIC ANGLE. I KNOW WHO I'M DEALING WITH.
BUT ARE YOU GOING TO BE ABLE TO REVERSE IT?
IF I CAN FIND OUT WHAT'S CAUSING IT, YEAH...
...PROBABLY.
I'M NOT LOVIN' THAT LACK OF COMPLETE OPTIMISM, TONY.
SAM...IS THERE ANY MORE INTEL ON THE ATTACK AT THE RAFT?

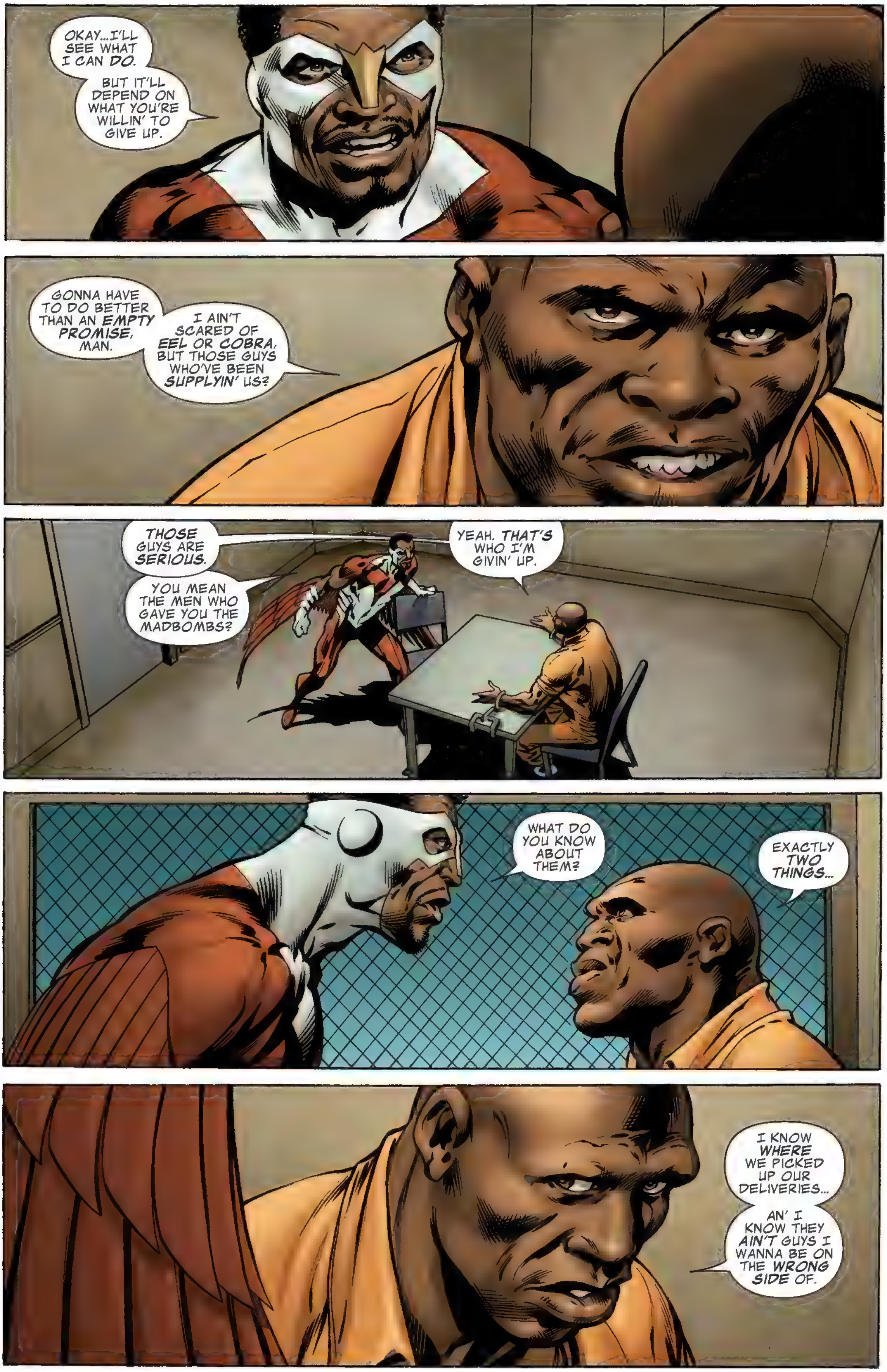

ALERT
NO. THEY CAPTURED ABOUT FIFTEEN HYDRA AGENTS...
BUT YOUR OLD PAL **BRAVO** IS THE ONLY INMATE WHO **ESCAPED** IN THE CONFUSION.
DAMN IT... I SHOULD BE OUT THERE, ON HIS TRAIL...
YOU'RE GOING **NOWHERE**, STEVE...
NOT UNTIL MY **TESTS** ARE FINISHED, AND NOT IN **THAT** CONDITION.
TONY'S RIGHT... AND ANYWAY, THE **MADBOMBS** ARE OUR PRIORITY RIGHT NOW.
NEED TO TRACK WHERE THE SERPENT SQUAD GOT THOSE **BOMBS** FROM.
OKAY... YOU GET ON THAT.
SHARON CAN HELP YOU COORDINATE THE SEARCH.
YEAH, THAT'S **ANOTHER** WEIRD THING. I CAN'T GET **AHOLD** OF SHARON...

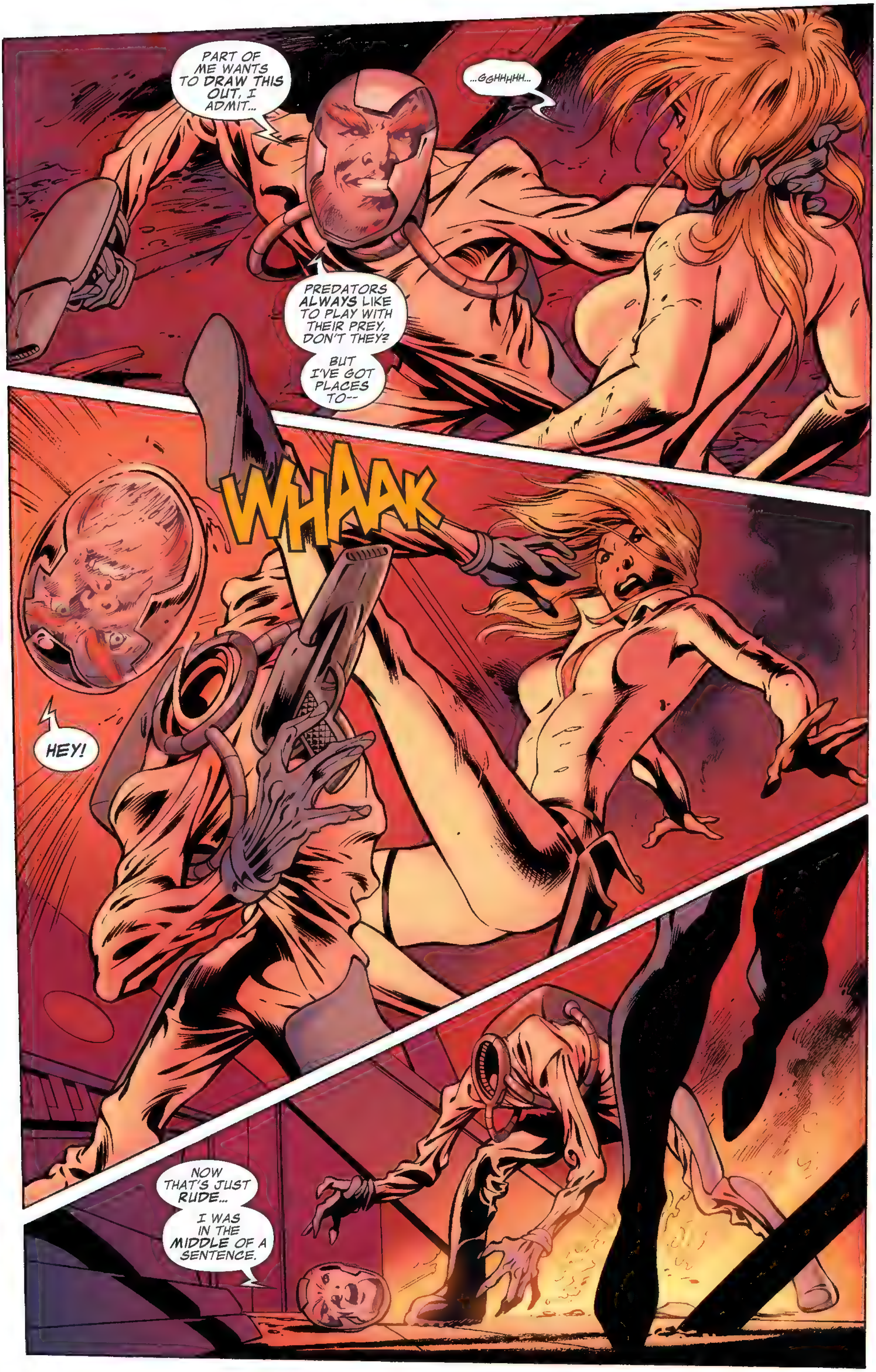

"...IT'S LIKE SHE DROPPED COMPLETELY OFF THE GRID OR SOMETHIN'."
THE SECRET AVENGERS QUINCARRIER.
STUPID STUPID STUPID...
DON'T KNOW WHAT PART OF THIS MAKES YOU A BIGGER IDIOT, SHARON...
I REALLY *SHOULD* BE THANKING YOU, AGENT CARTER...
...INSTEAD OF *KILLING* YOU.
WAKING UP *MACHINESMITH* FROM THE TRAP BEAST AND STEVE PUT HIM IN LAST YEAR?
OR THINKING HE REALLY *WAS* IMPRISONED THAT WHOLE TIME...
BUT...THAT'S REALLY NOT MY NATURE, IS IT?
I MEAN, FOR ONE THING...YOUR DEATH WILL *DESTROY* ROGERS.

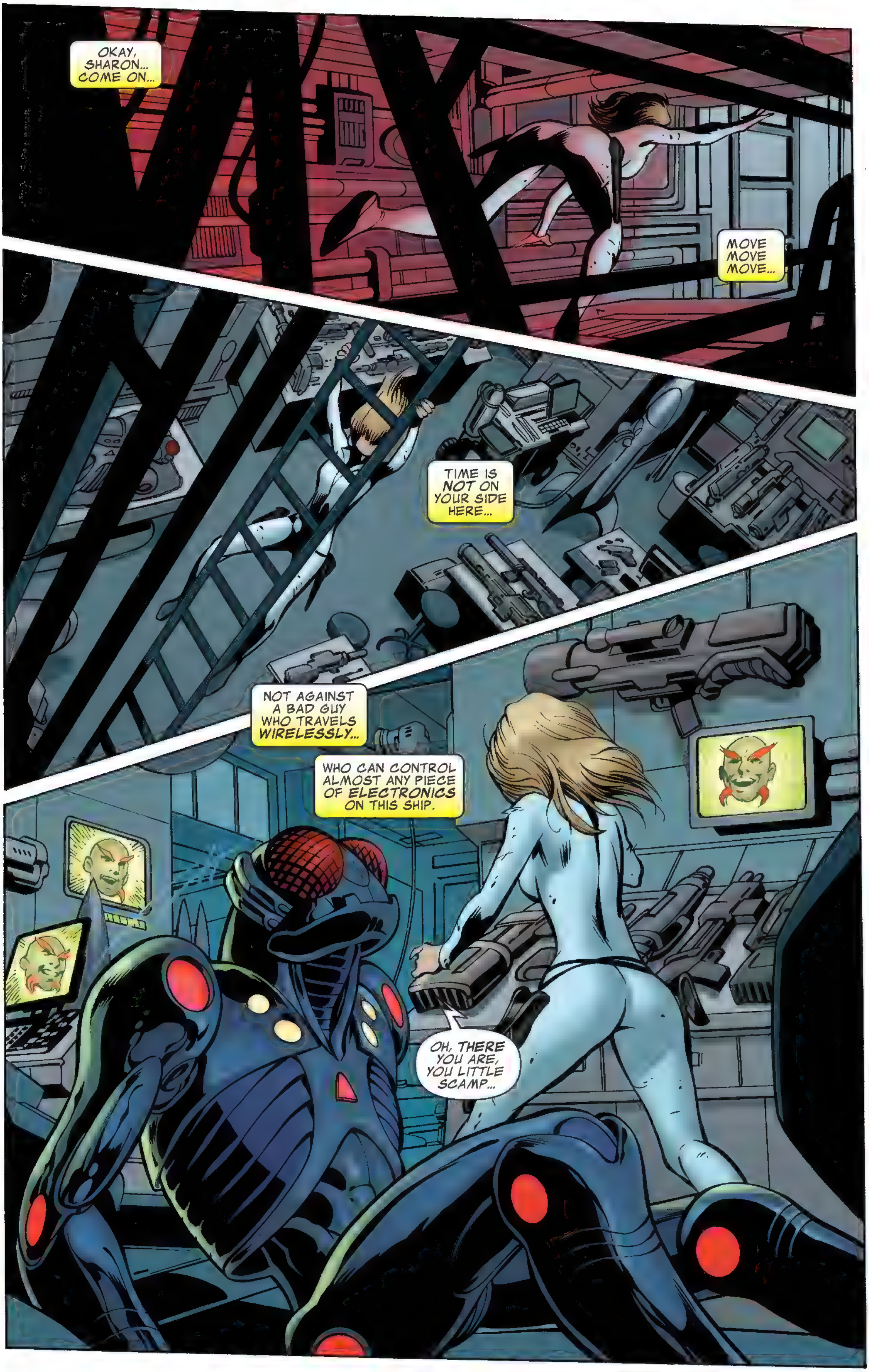

...INSTEAD OF LEARNING HOW TO INFILTRATE AND TAKE OVER OUR CARRIER SHIP.
AND KICKING HIM WHILE HE'S ALREADY DOWN...
...THAT'S JUST TOO PRECIOUS A CHANCE TO PASS UP.
THE PROBLEM IS, EVEN THOUGH THIS WAS A STUPID IDEA...I WAS RIGHT.
DAMN IT!
MACHINESMITH KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENING TO STEVE.
HE'S NOT EVEN TRYING TO HIDE THAT FACT.

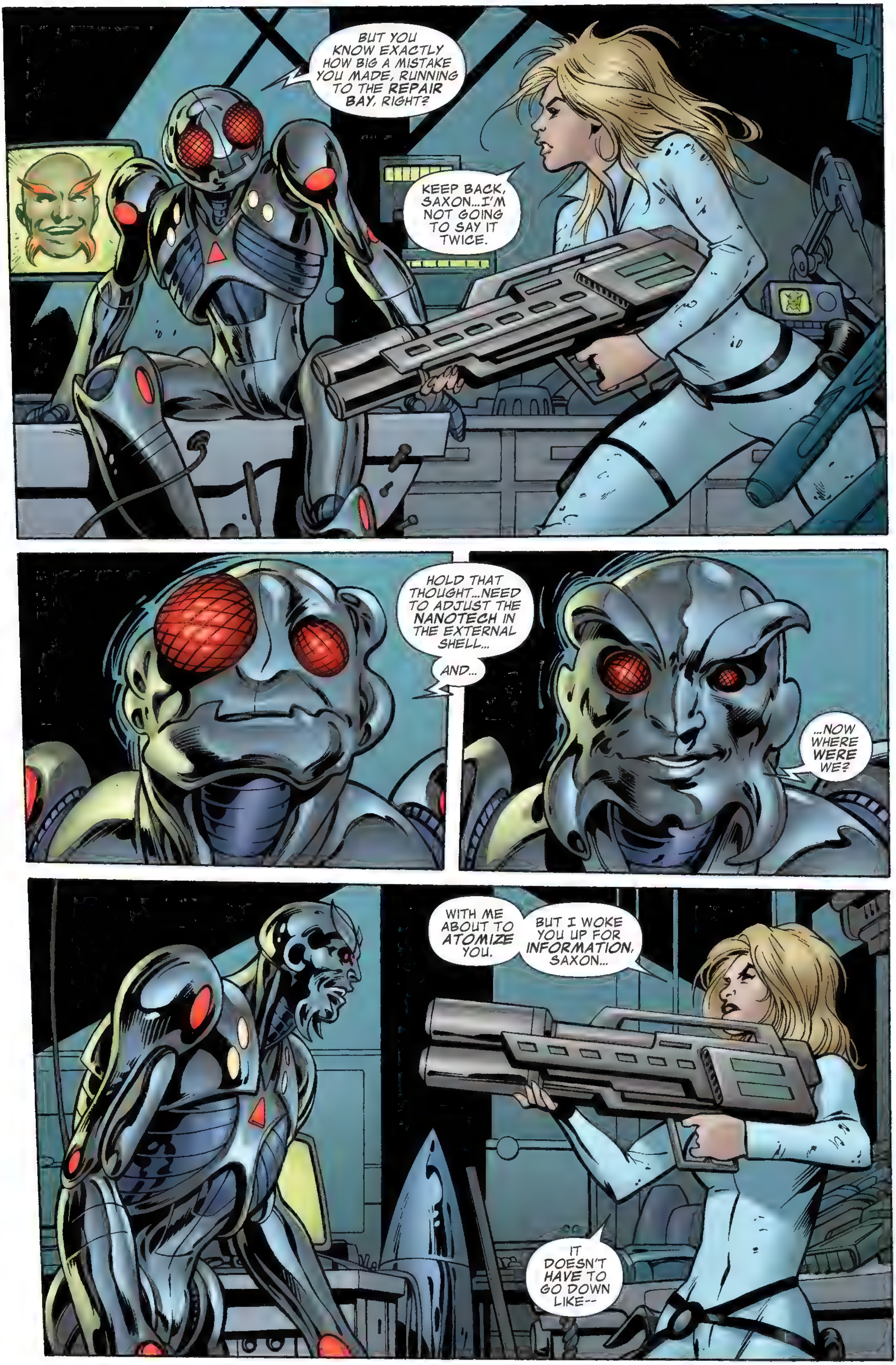

BECAUSE I CUT ALL COMM TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF THE CARRIER BEFORE I WOKE HIM UP...
AND BECAUSE, Y'KNOW, HE'S PLANNING TO KILL ME.
SO NOW LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN REALLY PULL THIS OFF, SHARON.
LET'S SEE HOW THE HELL YOU GET WHAT YOU NEED OUT OF HIM...
OH DEAR...
...WHAT SHALL I DO NOW?
...BEFORE THIS SHIP SELF-DESTRUCTS AND KILLS YOU BOTH.
WUUHH--!

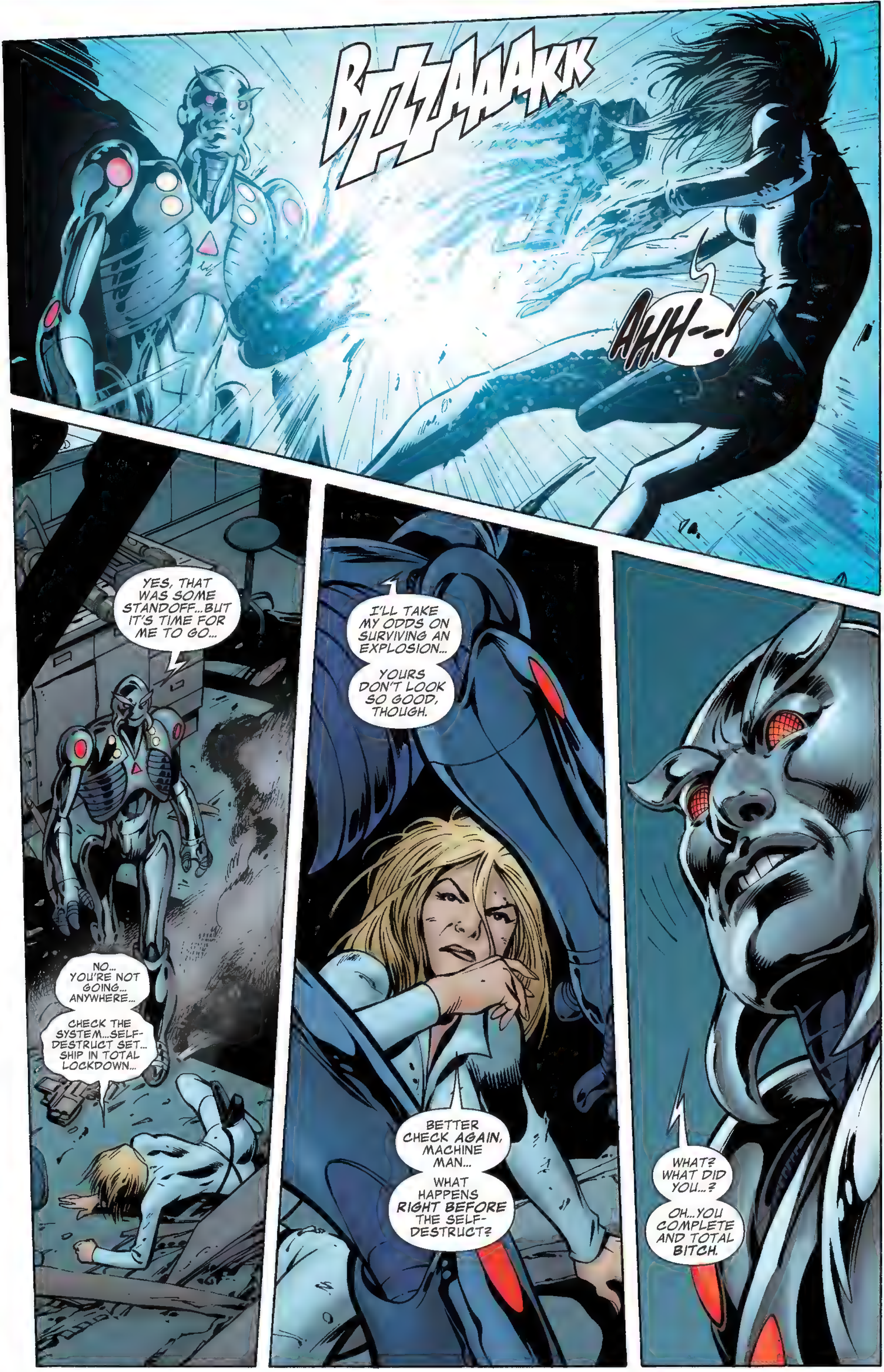

RYKERS ISLAND--
MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON.
LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT...
...YOU WANT TO BE PUT IN *WITNESS PROTECTION?*
YEAH, MAN... THIS WHOLE *SERPENT SQUAD* THING...
BEIN' THE NEW *VIPER...*
MAN, IT'S NOTHIN' LIKE WHAT COBRA *SAID* IT'D BE...
WE AIN'T *A-LIST*...WE'RE NOT RICH AN' FAMOUS...
WE JUST GET OUR ASSES HANDED TO US ANYTIME SOME SUPER SHOWS UP.
SO...YOU ALL CAN KEEP THIS CRAZY *HERO AND VILLAIN* CRAP FOR YOURSELVES, FALCON.
I JUST WANT SOME PEACE AND QUIET.
PUT ME OUT IN THE STICKS SOMEWHERE, I DON'T CARE...

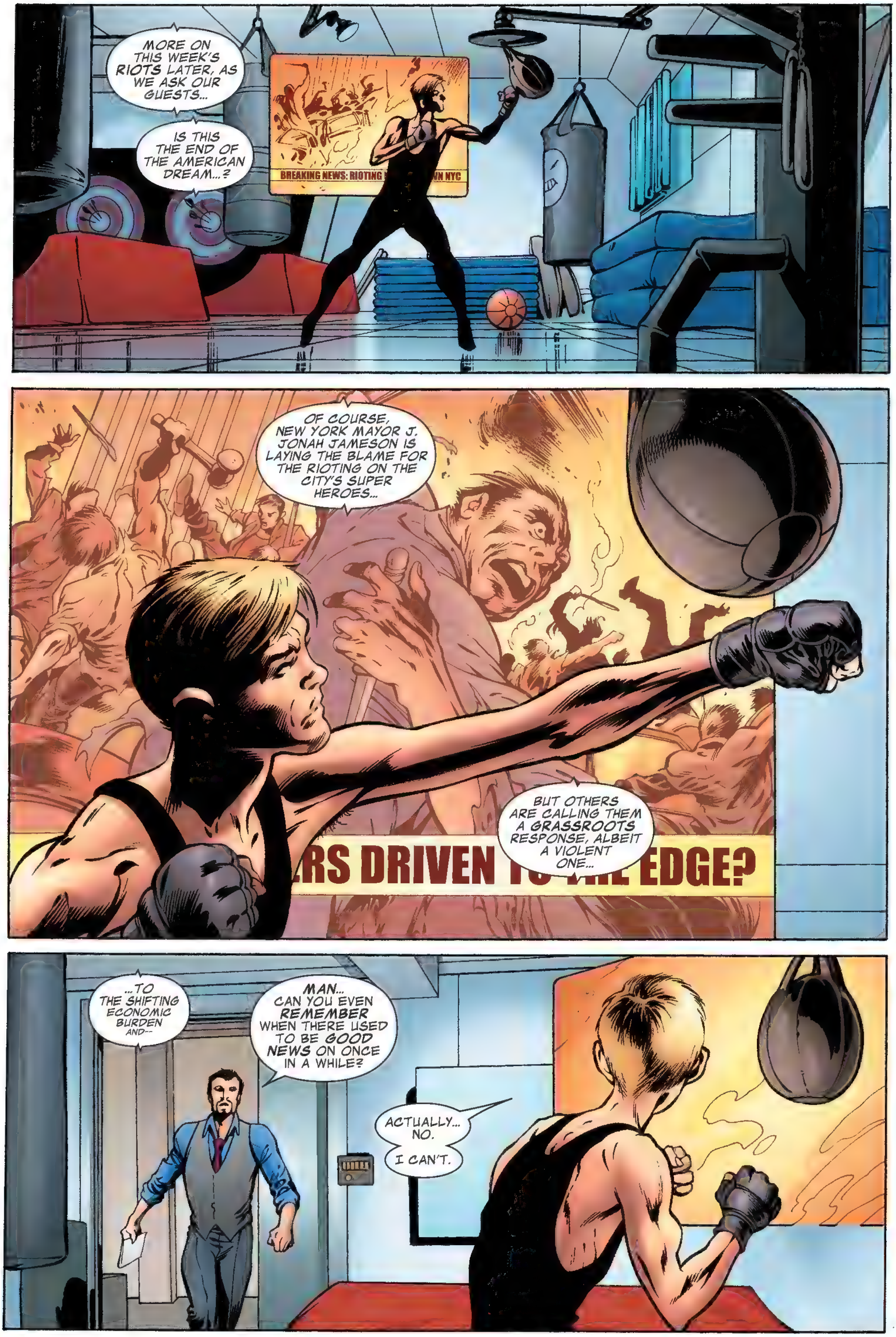

OKAY...I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN *DO*.
BUT IT'LL DEPEND ON WHAT YOU'RE WILLIN' TO GIVE UP.
GONNA HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN AN ***EMPTY PROMISE***, MAN.
I AIN'T SCARED OF ***EEL*** OR ***COBRA***, BUT THOSE GUYS WHO'VE BEEN ***SUPPLYIN'*** US?
YOU MEAN THE MEN WHO GAVE YOU THE MADBOMBS?
YEAH. ***THAT'S*** WHO I'M GIVIN' UP.
THOSE GUYS ARE ***SERIOUS***.
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM?
EXACTLY ***TWO THINGS***...
I KNOW ***WHERE*** WE PICKED UP OUR DELIVERIES...
AN' I KNOW THEY ***AIN'T*** GUYS I WANNA BE ON THE ***WRONG SIDE*** OF.

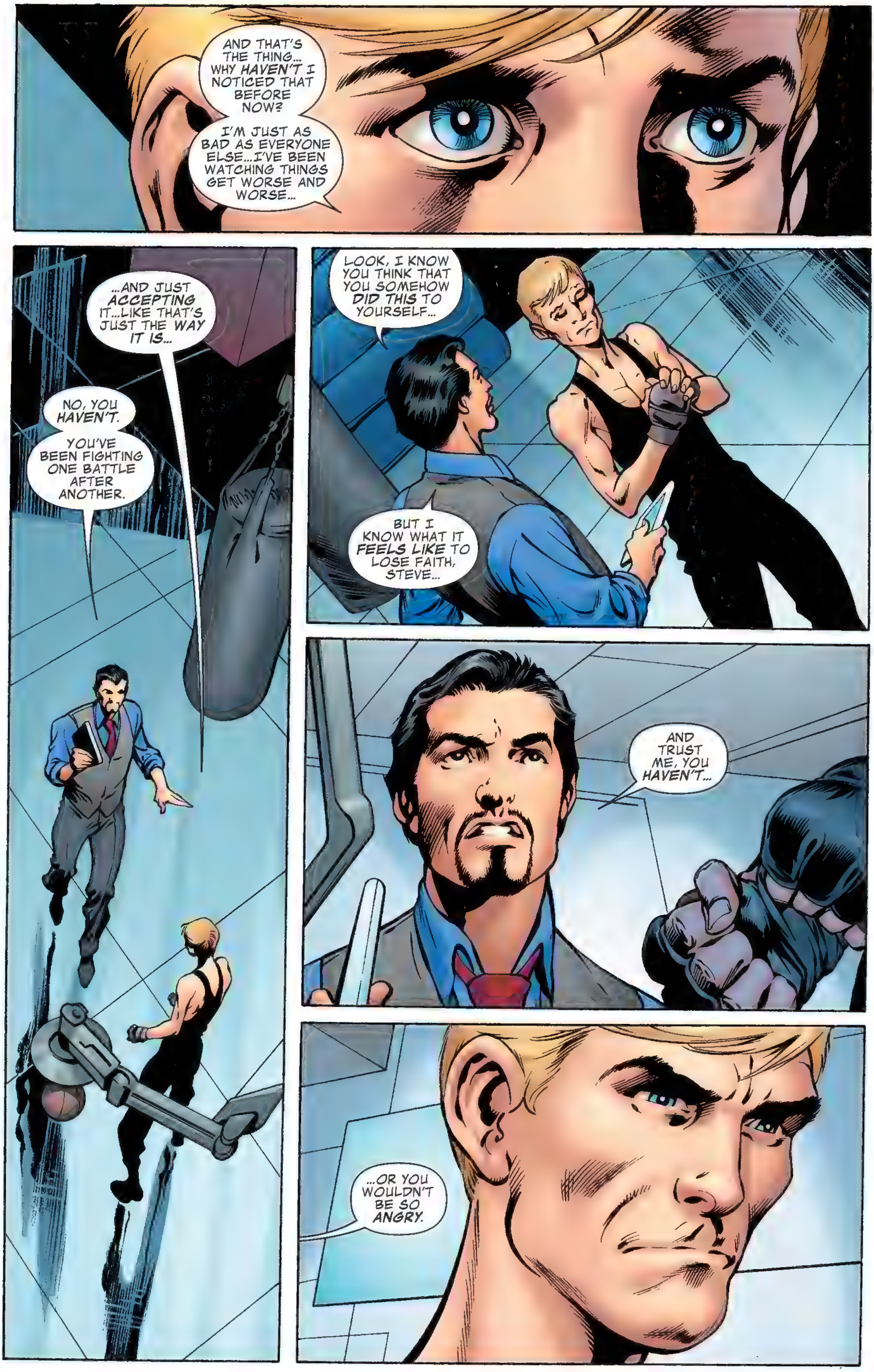

PART OF ME WANTS TO DRAW THIS OUT, I ADMIT...
...GGHHHHH...
PREDATORS ALWAYS LIKE TO PLAY WITH THEIR PREY, DON'T THEY?
BUT I'VE GOT PLACES TO--
WHAAK
HEY!
NOW THAT'S JUST RUDE...
I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A SENTENCE.

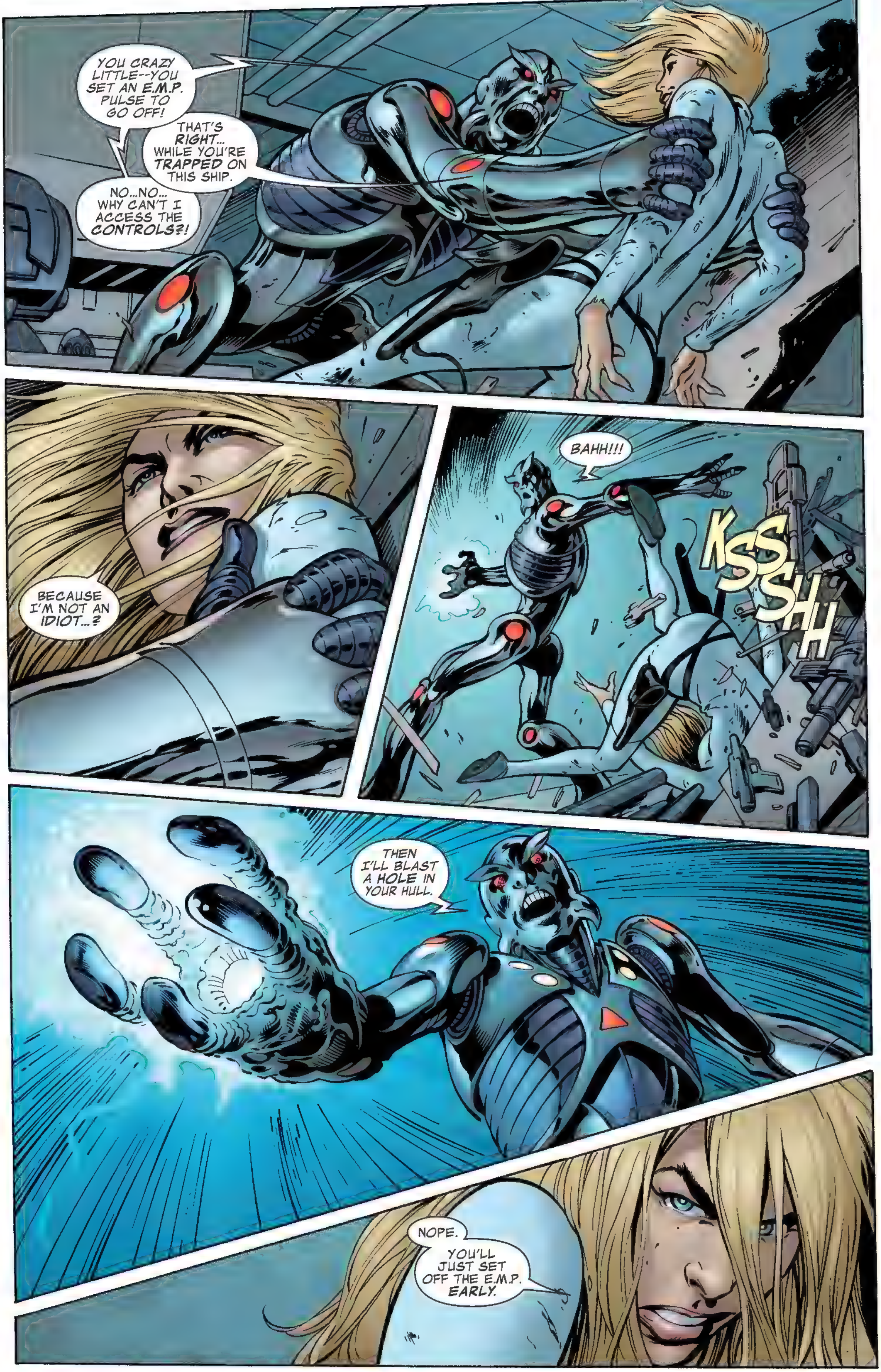

OKAY, SHARON... COME ON...
MOVE MOVE MOVE...
TIME IS *NOT* ON YOUR SIDE HERE...
NOT AGAINST A BAD GUY WHO TRAVELS *WIRELESSLY*...
WHO CAN CONTROL ALMOST ANY PIECE OF *ELECTRONICS* ON THIS SHIP.
OH, THERE YOU ARE, YOU LITTLE SCAMP...

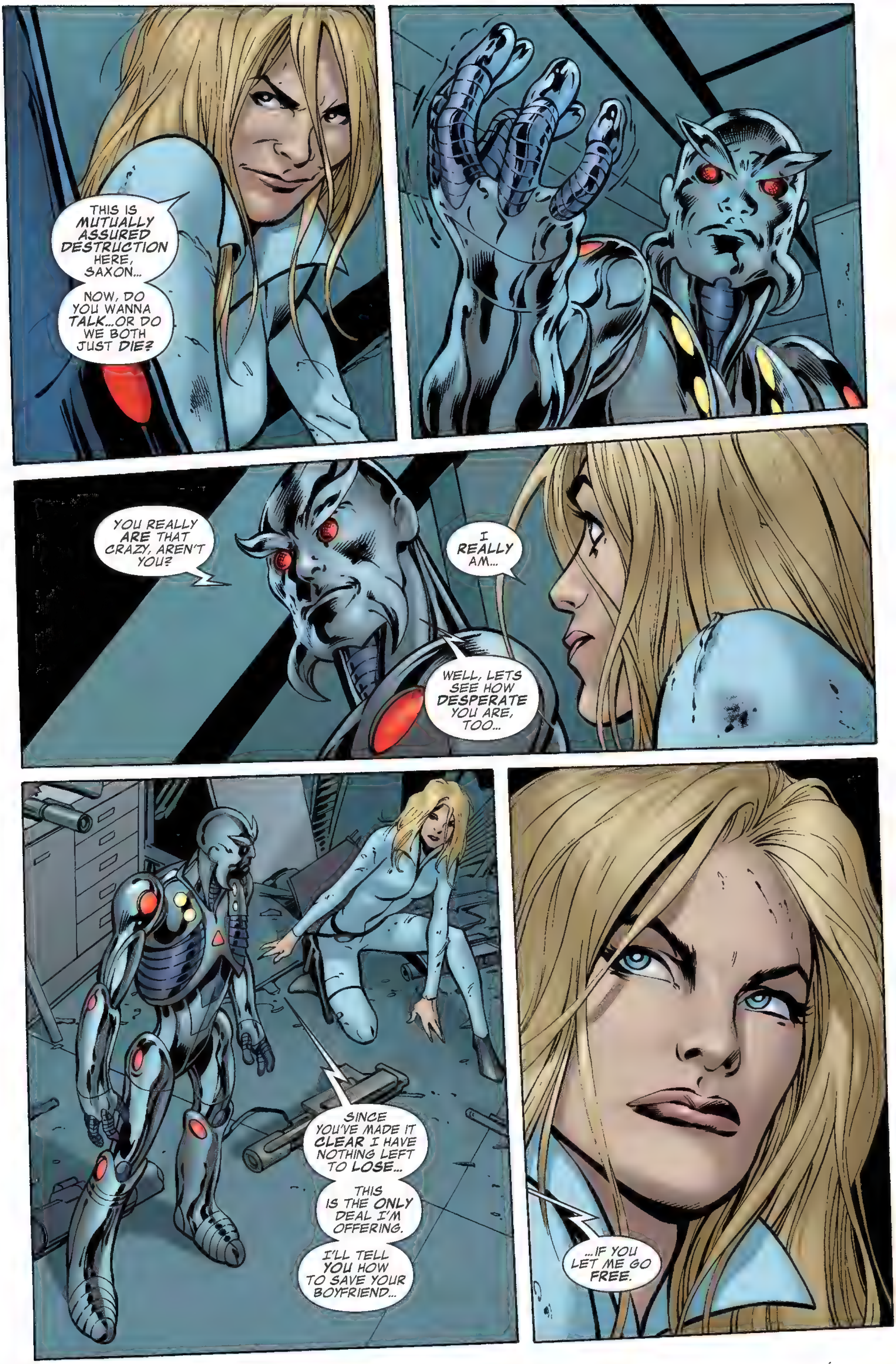

BUT YOU KNOW EXACTLY HOW BIG A MISTAKE YOU MADE, RUNNING TO THE REPAIR BAY, RIGHT?
KEEP BACK, SAXON...I'M NOT GOING TO SAY IT TWICE.
HOLD THAT THOUGHT...NEED TO ADJUST THE NANOTECH IN THE EXTERNAL SHELL...
AND...
...NOW WHERE WERE WE?
WITH ME ABOUT TO ATOMIZE YOU.
BUT I WOKE YOU UP FOR INFORMATION, SAXON...
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO GO DOWN LIKE--

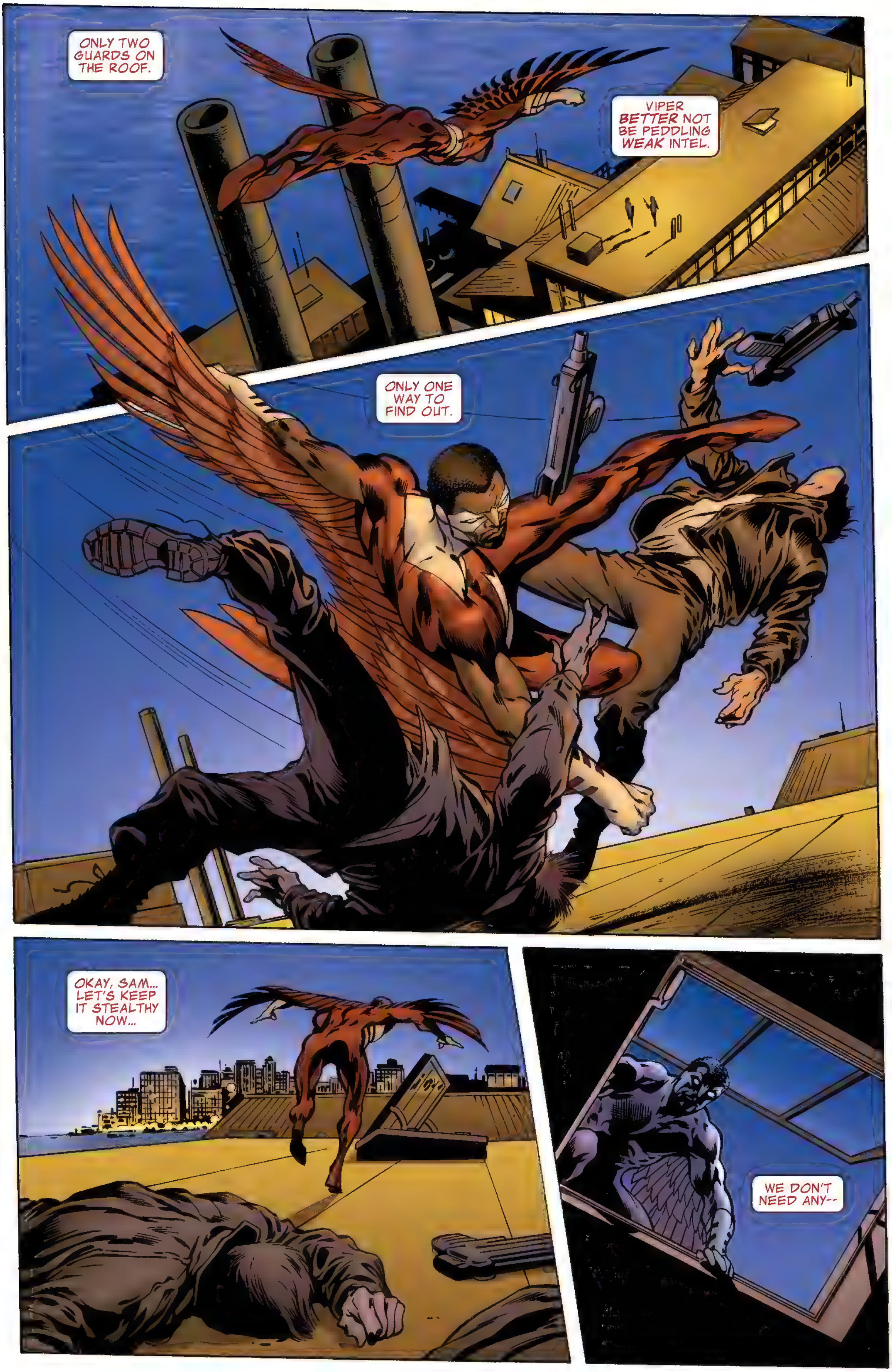

BZZAAAKK
AHH--!
YES, THAT WAS SOME STANDOFF...BUT IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GO...
NO... YOU'RE NOT GOING... ANYWHERE...
CHECK THE SYSTEM...SELF-DESTRUCT SET... SHIP IN TOTAL LOCKDOWN...
I'LL TAKE MY ODDS ON SURVIVING AN EXPLOSION...
YOURS DON'T LOOK SO GOOD, THOUGH.
BETTER CHECK AGAIN, MACHINE MAN...
WHAT HAPPENS RIGHT BEFORE THE SELF-DESTRUCT?
WHAT? WHAT DID YOU...?
OH...YOU COMPLETE AND TOTAL BITCH.

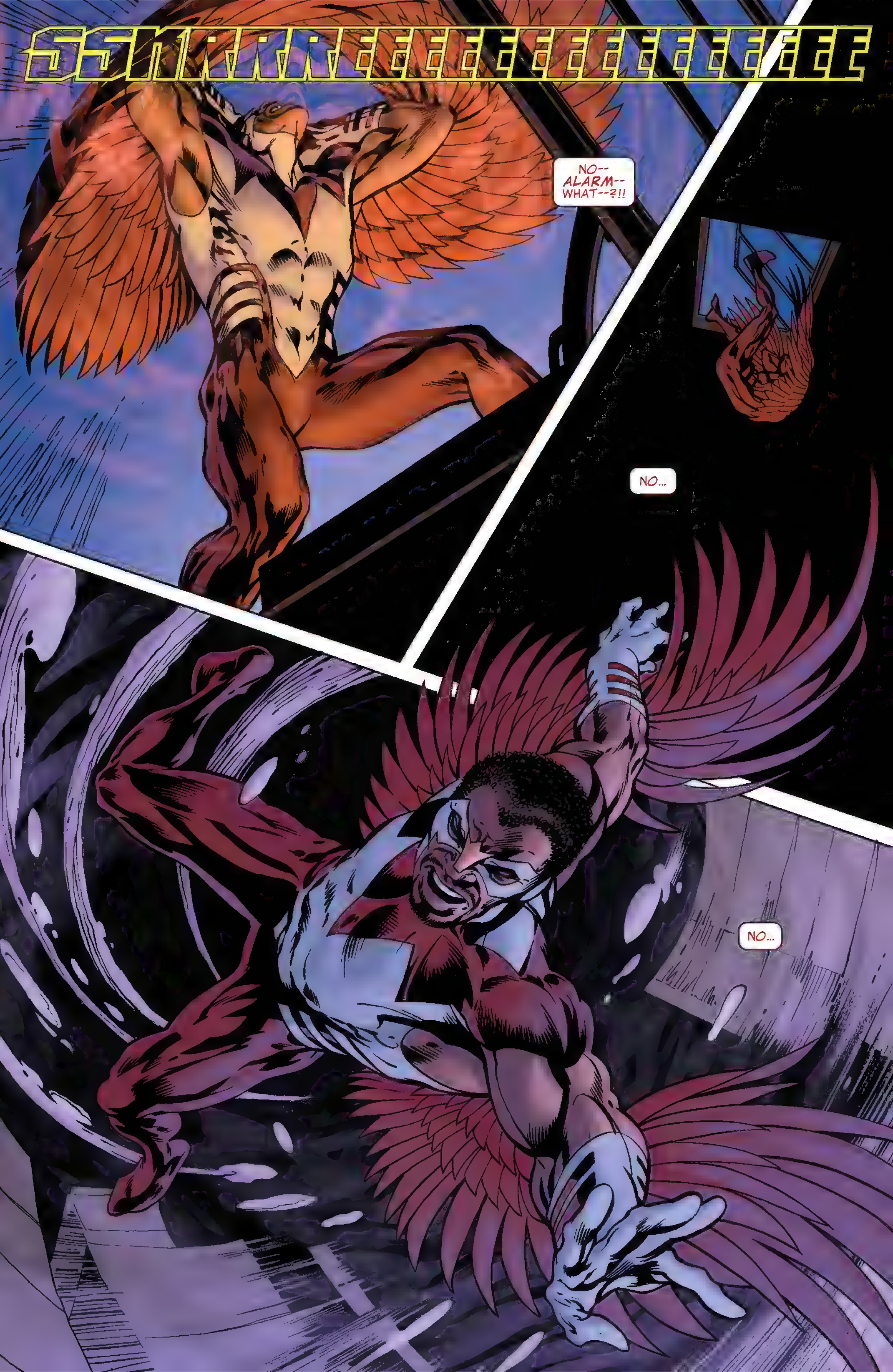

MORE ON THIS WEEK'S RIOTS LATER, AS WE ASK OUR GUESTS...
IS THIS THE END OF THE AMERICAN DREAM...?
BREAKING NEWS: RIOTING
VN NYC
OF COURSE, NEW YORK MAYOR J. JONAH JAMESON IS LAYING THE BLAME FOR THE RIOTING ON THE CITY'S SUPER HEROES...
BUT OTHERS ARE CALLING THEM A GRASSROOTS RESPONSE, ALBEIT A VIOLENT ONE...
RS DRIVEN
EDGE?
...TO THE SHIFTING ECONOMIC BURDEN AND--
MAN... CAN YOU EVEN REMEMBER WHEN THERE USED TO BE GOOD NEWS ON ONCE IN A WHILE?
ACTUALLY... NO.
I CAN'T.

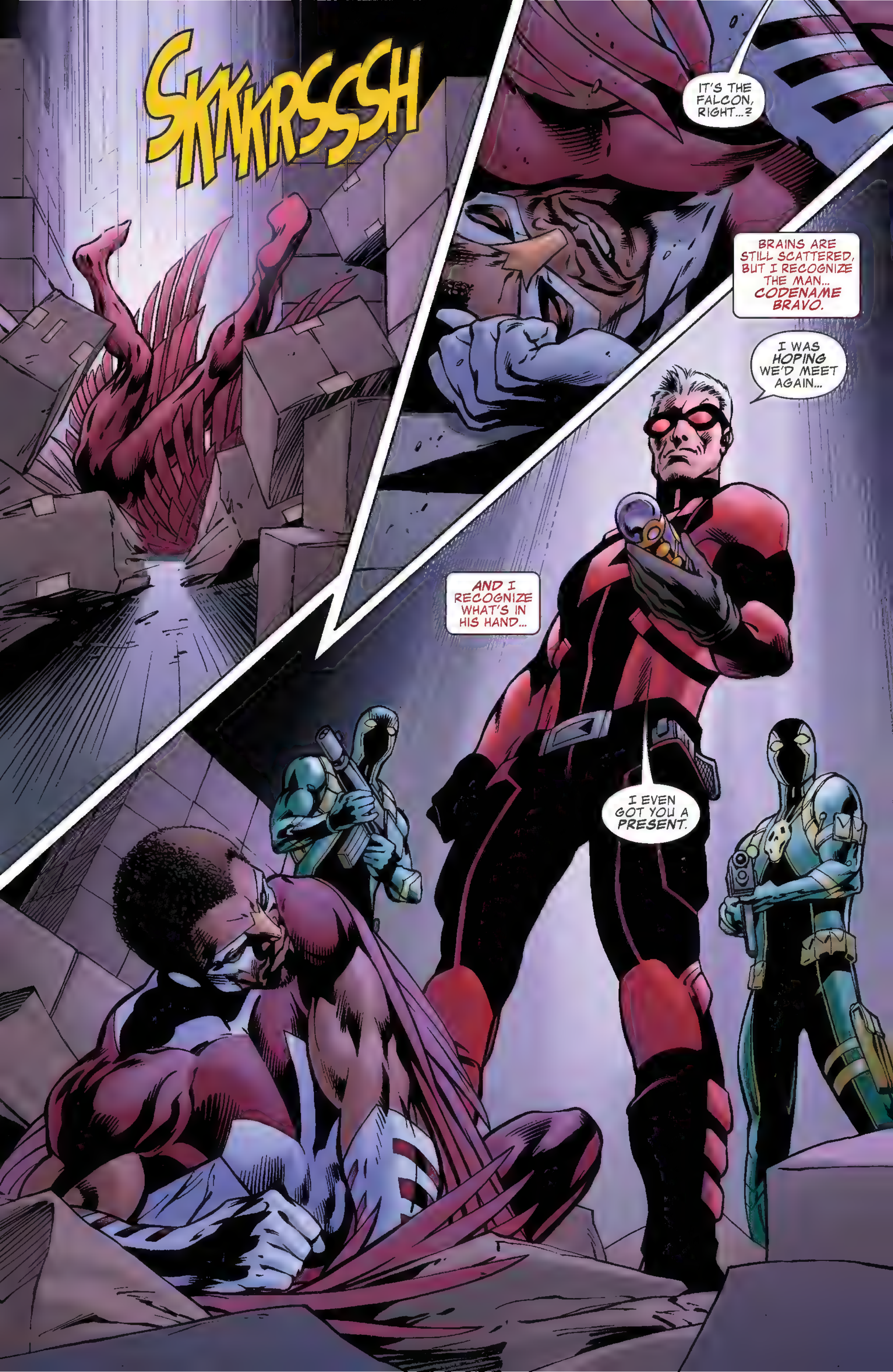

AND THAT'S THE THING... WHY *HAVEN'T* I NOTICED THAT BEFORE NOW?
I'M JUST AS BAD AS EVERYONE ELSE...I'VE BEEN WATCHING THINGS GET WORSE AND WORSE...
...AND JUST *ACCEPTING* IT...LIKE THAT'S JUST THE *WAY IT IS*...
NO, YOU *HAVEN'T.*
YOU'VE BEEN FIGHTING ONE BATTLE AFTER ANOTHER.
LOOK, I KNOW YOU THINK THAT YOU SOMEHOW *DID THIS* TO YOURSELF...
BUT I KNOW WHAT IT *FEELS LIKE* TO LOSE FAITH, STEVE...
AND TRUST ME, YOU *HAVEN'T...*
...OR YOU WOULDN'T BE SO *ANGRY.*

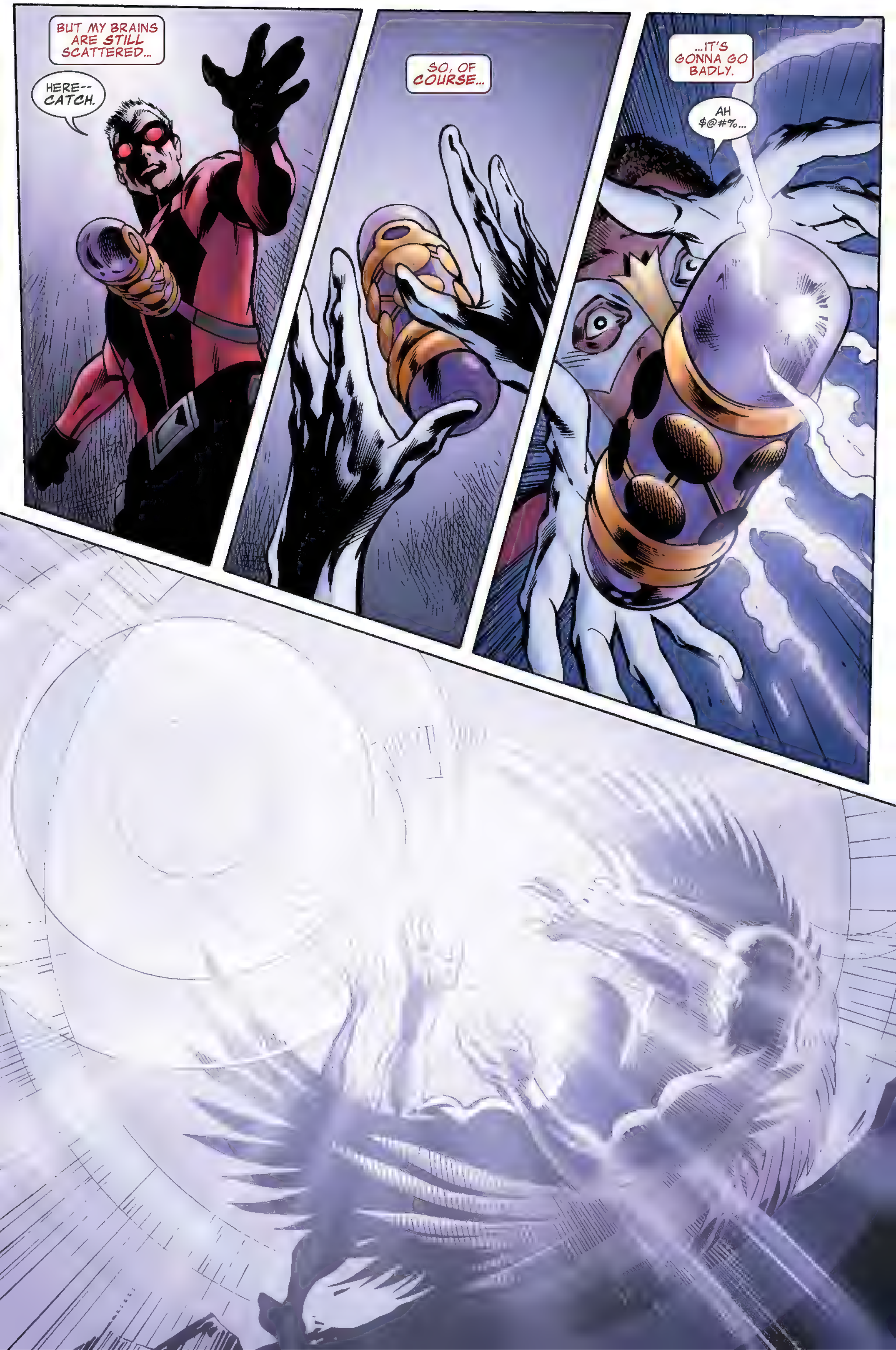

YOU CRAZY LITTLE--YOU SET AN E.M.P. PULSE TO GO OFF!
THAT'S RIGHT... WHILE YOU'RE TRAPPED ON THIS SHIP.
NO...NO... WHY CAN'T I ACCESS THE CONTROLS?!
BECAUSE I'M NOT AN IDIOT...?
BAHH!!!
KSSSHH
THEN I'LL BLAST A HOLE IN YOUR HULL.
NOPE.
YOU'LL JUST SET OFF THE E.M.P. EARLY.

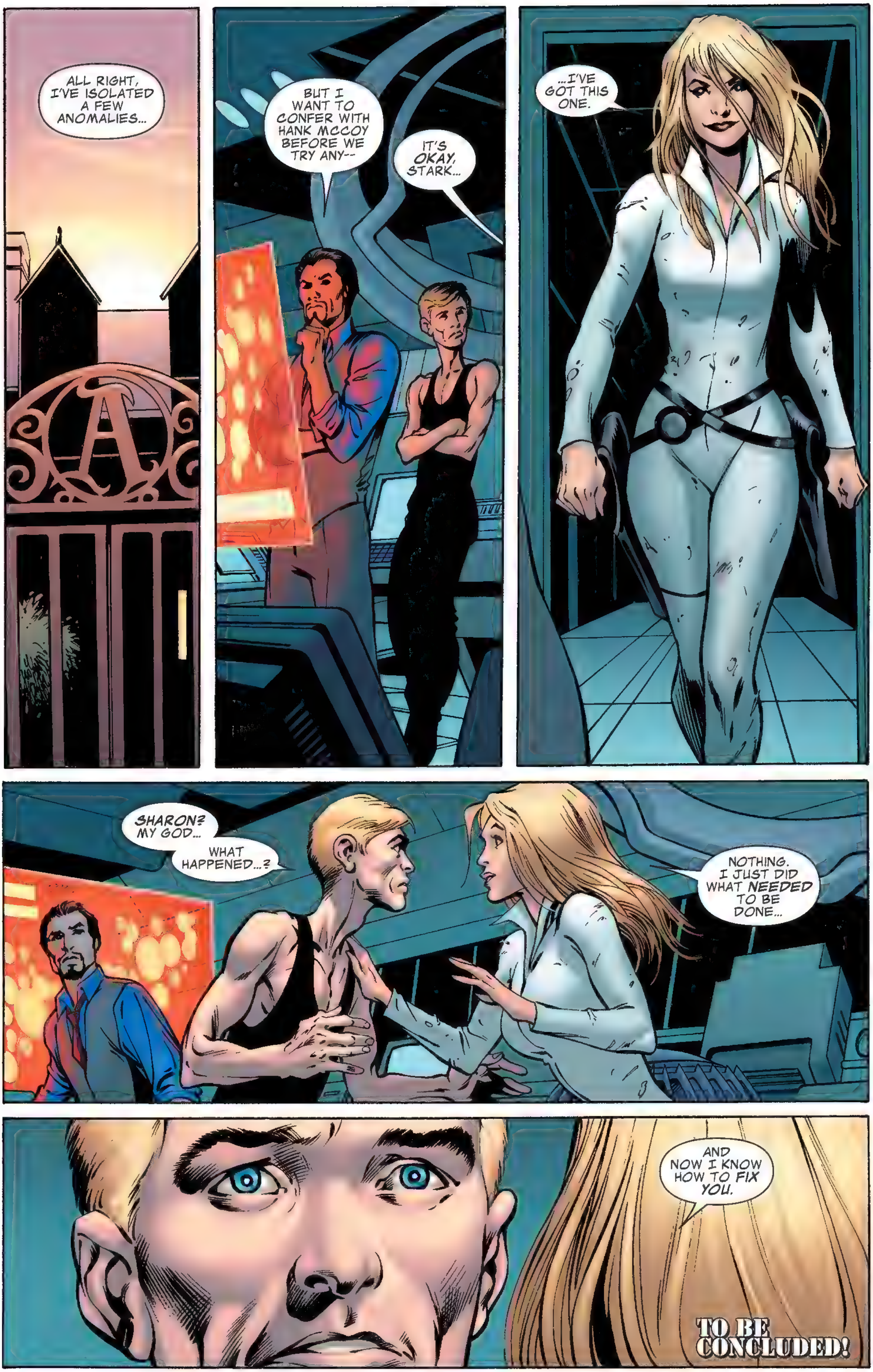

THIS IS MUTUALLY ASSURED DESTRUCTION HERE, SAXON...
NOW, DO YOU WANNA TALK...OR DO WE BOTH JUST DIE?
YOU REALLY ARE THAT CRAZY, AREN'T YOU?
I REALLY AM...
WELL, LETS SEE HOW DESPERATE YOU ARE, TOO...
SINCE YOU'VE MADE IT CLEAR I HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE...
THIS IS THE ONLY DEAL I'M OFFERING.
I'LL TELL YOU HOW TO SAVE YOUR BOYFRIEND...
...IF YOU LET ME GO FREE.


ONLY TWO GUARDS ON THE ROOF.
VIPER **BETTER** NOT BE PEDDLING **WEAK** INTEL.
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT.
OKAY, SAM... LET'S KEEP IT STEALTHY NOW...
WE DON'T NEED ANY--


SSKRREEEEEEEEEEEEE
NO--
ALARM--
WHAT--?!!
NO...
NO...


SKKKRSSSH
IT'S THE FALCON, RIGHT...?
BRAINS ARE STILL SCATTERED, BUT I RECOGNIZE THE MAN... CODENAME BRAVO.
I WAS HOPING WE'D MEET AGAIN...
AND I RECOGNIZE WHAT'S IN HIS HAND...
I EVEN GOT YOU A PRESENT.


BUT MY BRAINS ARE STILL SCATTERED...
HERE-- CATCH.
SO, OF COURSE...
...IT'S GONNA GO BADLY.
AH $@#%...


ALL RIGHT, I'VE ISOLATED A FEW ANOMALIES...
BUT I WANT TO CONFER WITH HANK McCOY BEFORE WE TRY ANY--
IT'S OKAY, STARK...
...I'VE GOT THIS ONE.
SHARON? MY GOD...
WHAT HAPPENED...?
NOTHING. I JUST DID WHAT NEEDED TO BE DONE...
AND NOW I KNOW HOW TO FIX YOU.
TO BE CONCLUDED!

MARVEL

10

CAPTAIN AMERICA

BRUBAKER
DAVIS
FARMER
MARTIN

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DURING THE DARK DAYS OF THE EARLY 1940S, A COVERT MILITARY EXPERIMENT TURNED STEVE ROGERS INTO AMERICA'S FIRST SUPER-SOLDIER, CAPTAIN AMERICA. THROUGHOUT THE WAR, CAP AND HIS PARTNER BUCKY FOUGHT ALONGSIDE OUR INFANTRY AND WITH A GROUP OF HEROES KNOWN AS THE INVADERS. IN THE CLOSING MONTHS OF WWII, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WERE BOTH PRESUMED DEAD IN AN EXPLOSION OVER THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

DECADES LATER, A FIGURE WAS FOUND TRAPPED IN ICE, AND CAPTAIN AMERICA WAS REVIVED. HAVING SLEPT THROUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE 20TH CENTURY, STEVE ROGERS AWAKENED TO A WORLD HE NEVER IMAGINED, A WORLD WHERE WAR HAD MOVED FROM THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE CITY STREETS... A WORLD IN DIRE NEED OF...

CAPTAIN AMERICA

POWERLESS PART 5

AN ATTACK ON THE SUPERHUMAN PENITENTIARY CALLED THE RAFT BY AGENTS OF THE NEW QUEEN HYDRA ENABLED THE ESCAPE OF THE QUEEN'S IMPRISONED ALLY, THE TIME-DISPLACED FORMER ALLIED OPERATIVE CALLED CODENAME BRAVO. WHILE IN PURSUIT, CAP'S TEAMMATE THE FALCON WAS EXPOSED TO A MADNESS-INDUCING MADBOMB.

MEANWHILE, STEVE ROGERS' RECURRING DREAMS OF LOSING HIS SUPERHUMAN PHYSIQUE HAVE BECOME A REALITY. TO FIND THE CURE, SHARON CARTER MADE A DEVIL'S BARGAIN WITH THE DIGITAL INTELLIGENCE KNOWN AS MACHINESMITH, OFFERING HIM HIS FREEDOM IN EXCHANGE.

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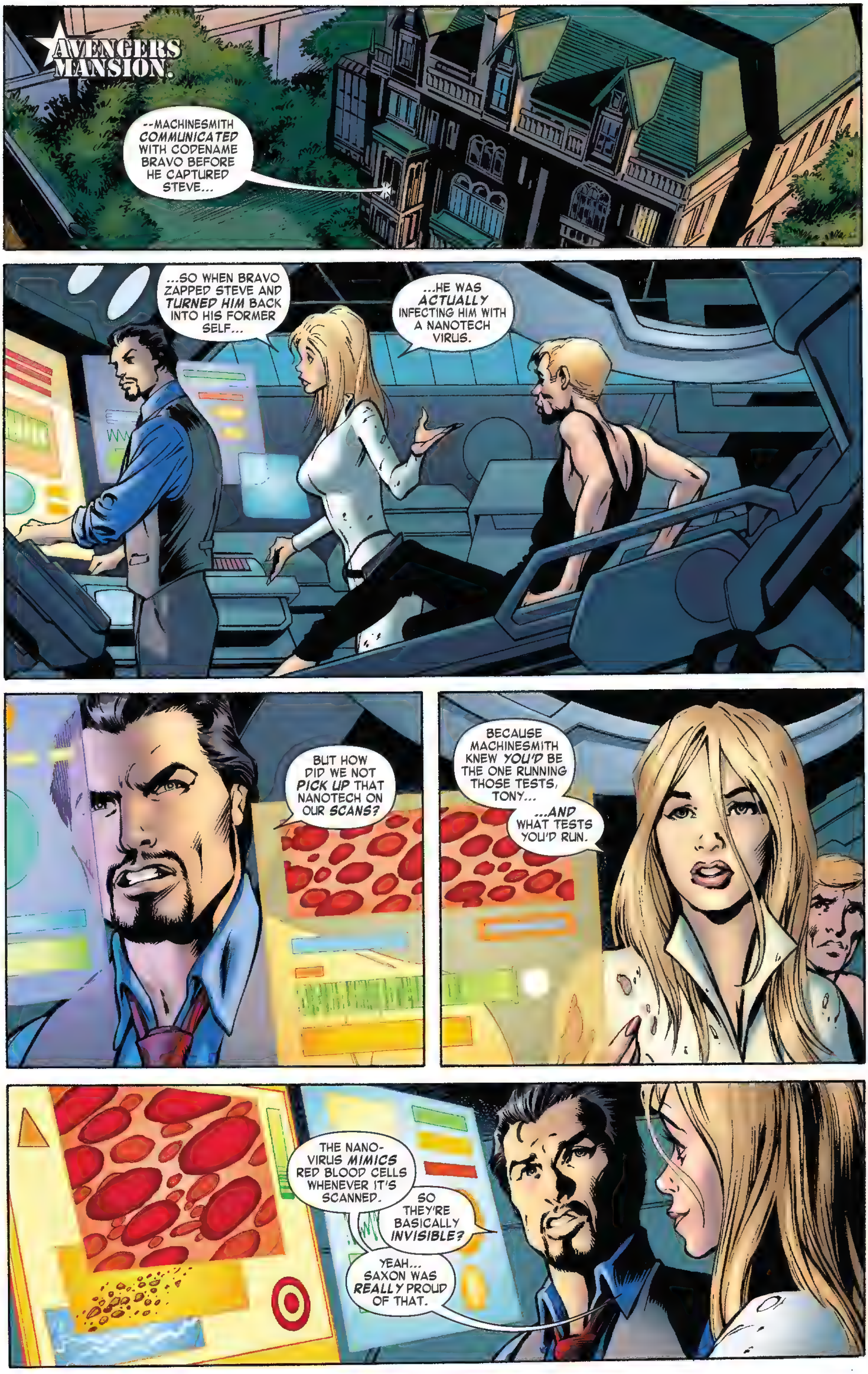
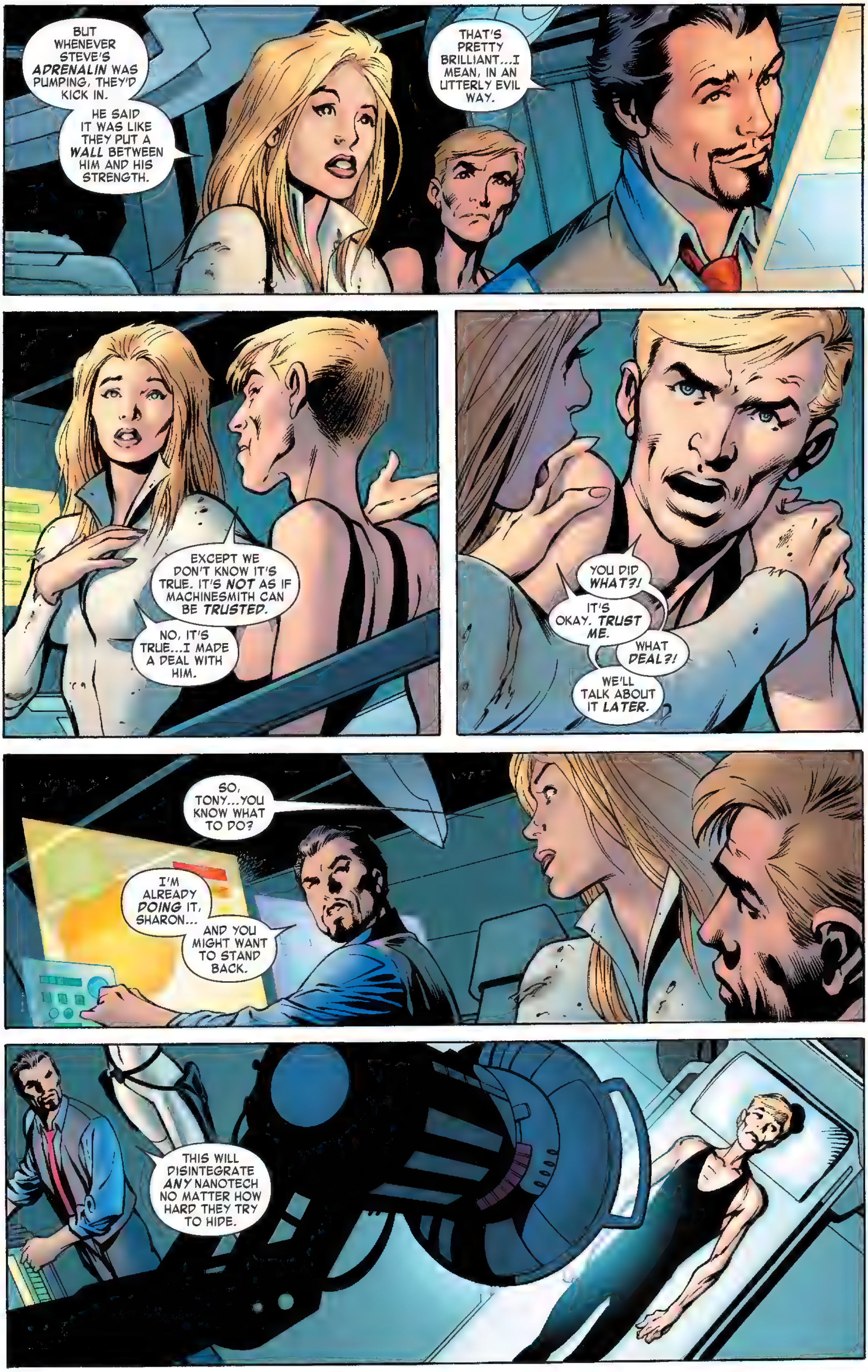
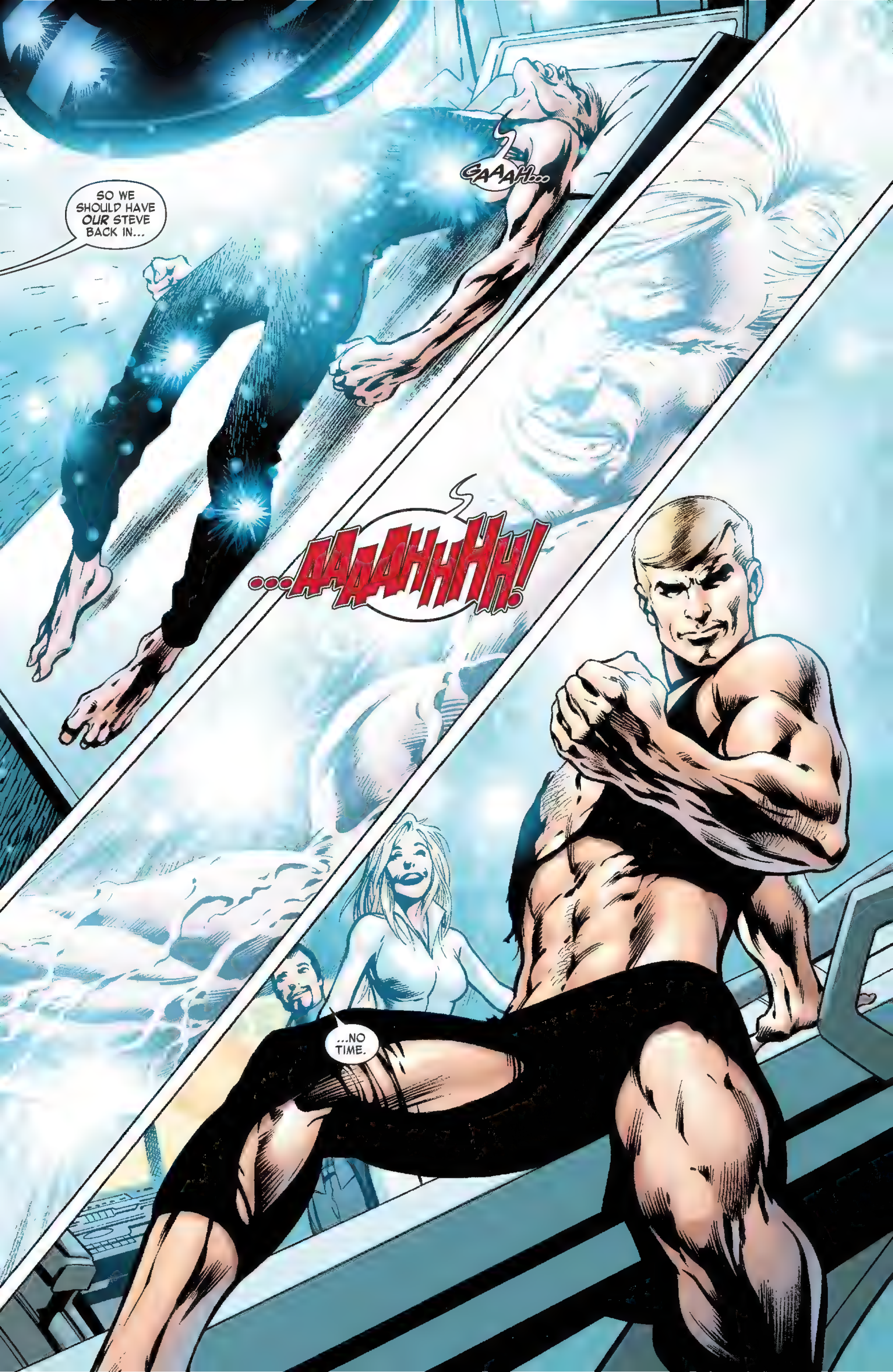
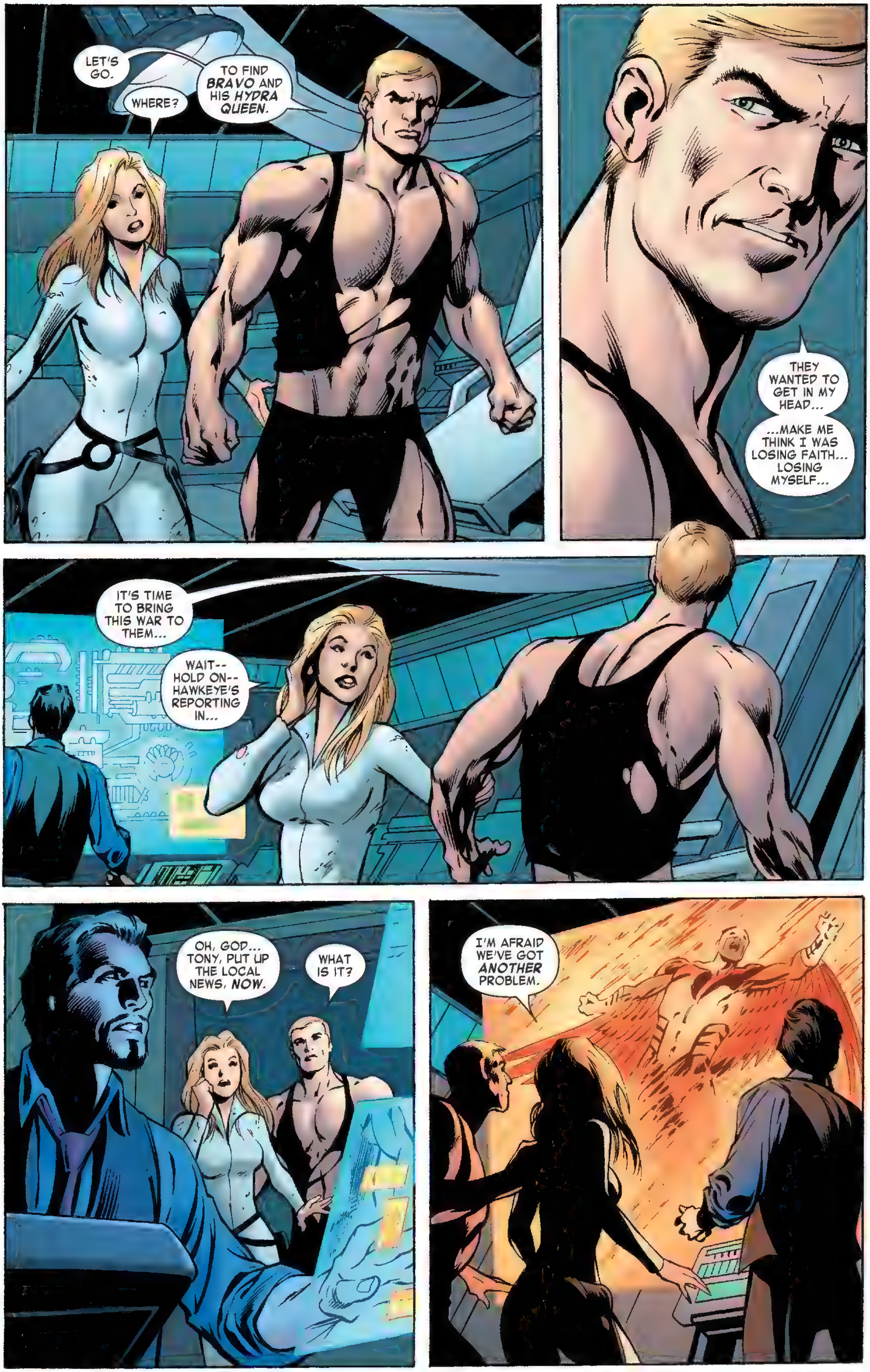
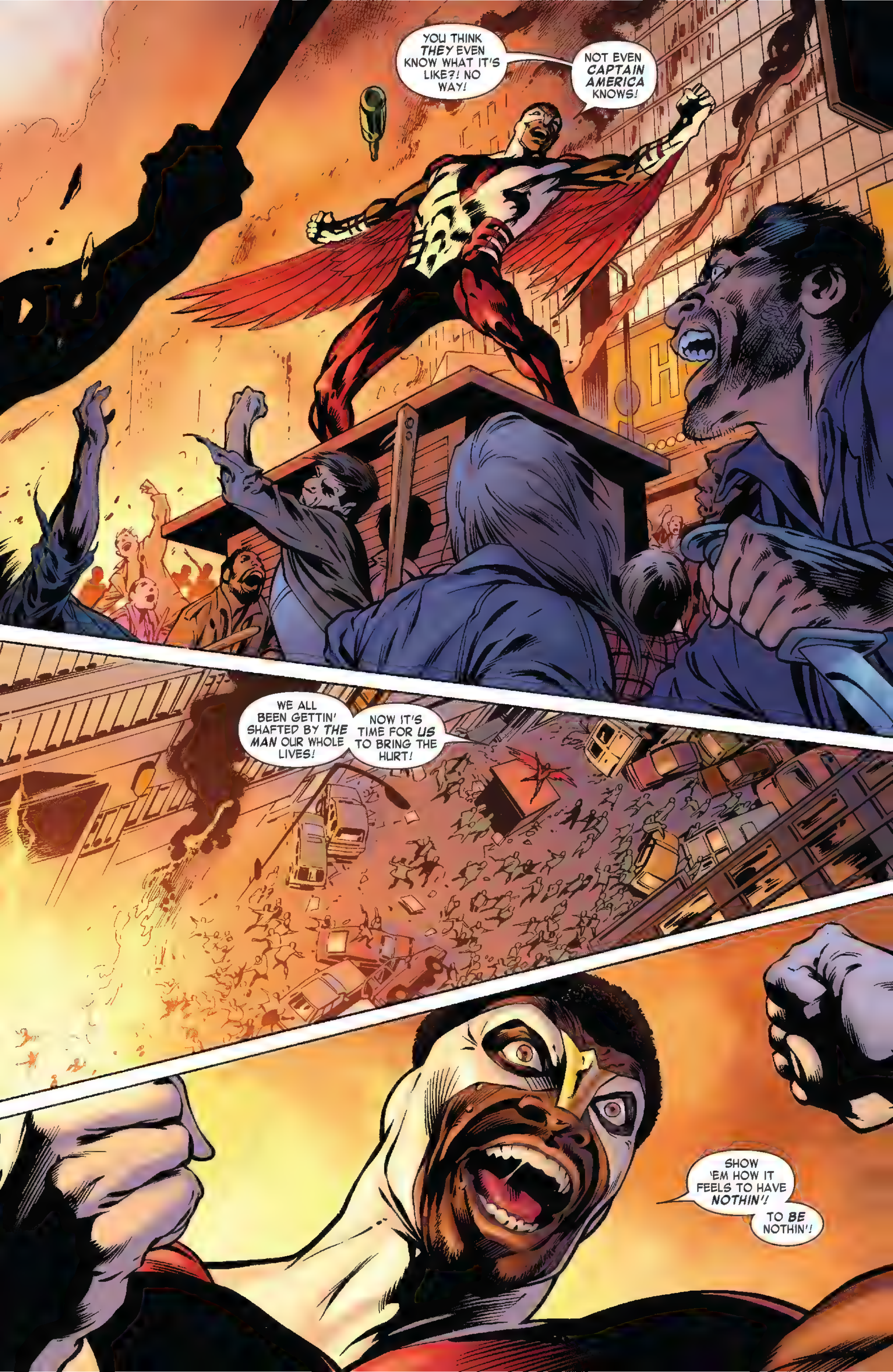
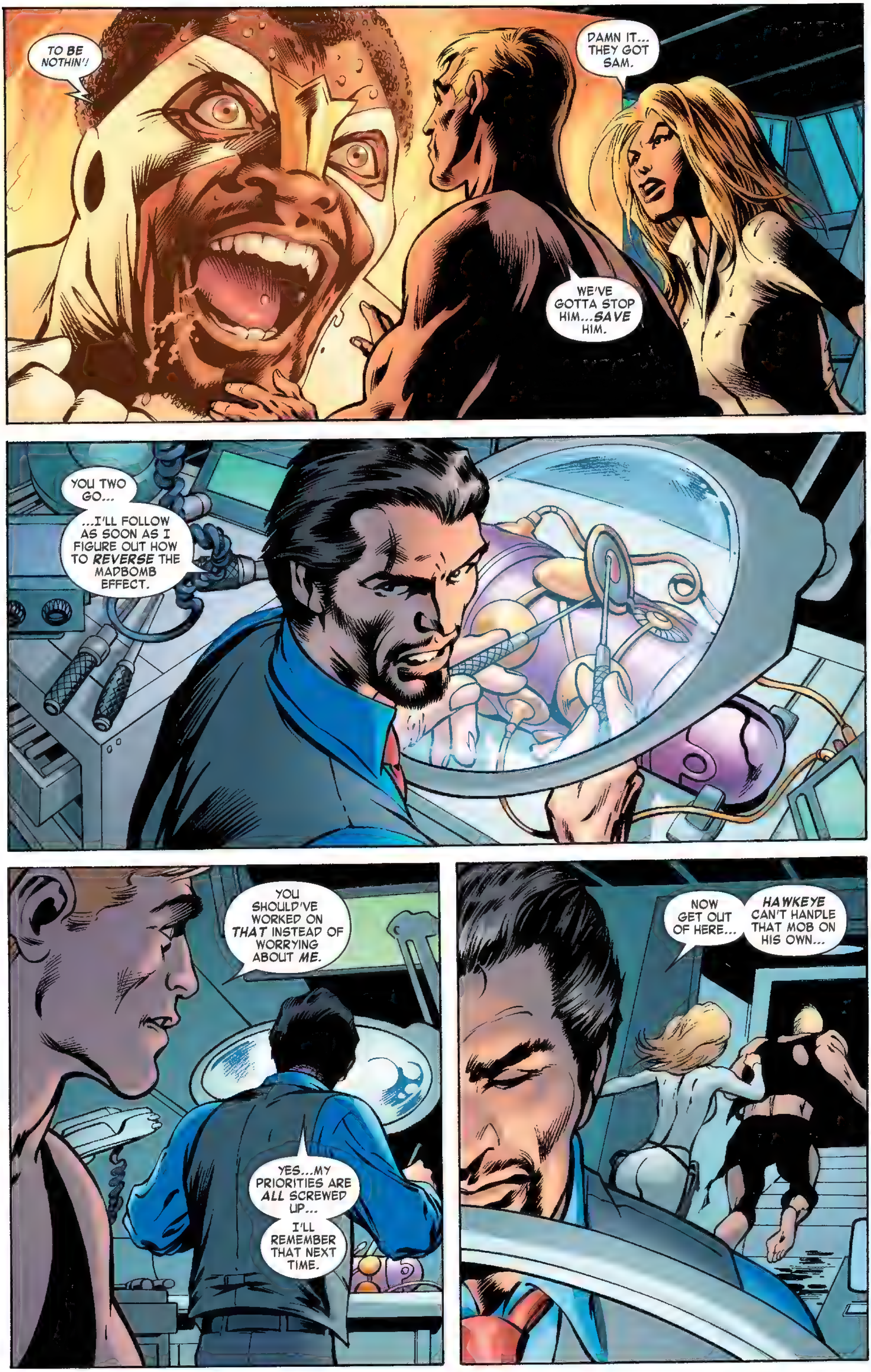

AVENGERS MANSION.
--MACHINESMITH *COMMUNICATED* WITH CODENAME BRAVO BEFORE HE CAPTURED STEVE...
...SO WHEN BRAVO ZAPPED STEVE AND *TURNED HIM* BACK INTO HIS FORMER SELF...
...HE WAS *ACTUALLY* INFECTING HIM WITH A NANOTECH VIRUS.
BUT HOW DID WE NOT *PICK UP* THAT NANOTECH ON OUR *SCANS?*
BECAUSE MACHINESMITH KNEW *YOU'D* BE THE ONE RUNNING THOSE TESTS, TONY...
...AND WHAT TESTS YOU'D RUN.
THE NANO-VIRUS *MIMICS* RED BLOOD CELLS WHENEVER IT'S SCANNED.
SO THEY'RE BASICALLY *INVISIBLE?*
YEAH... SAXON WAS *REALLY* PROUD OF THAT.

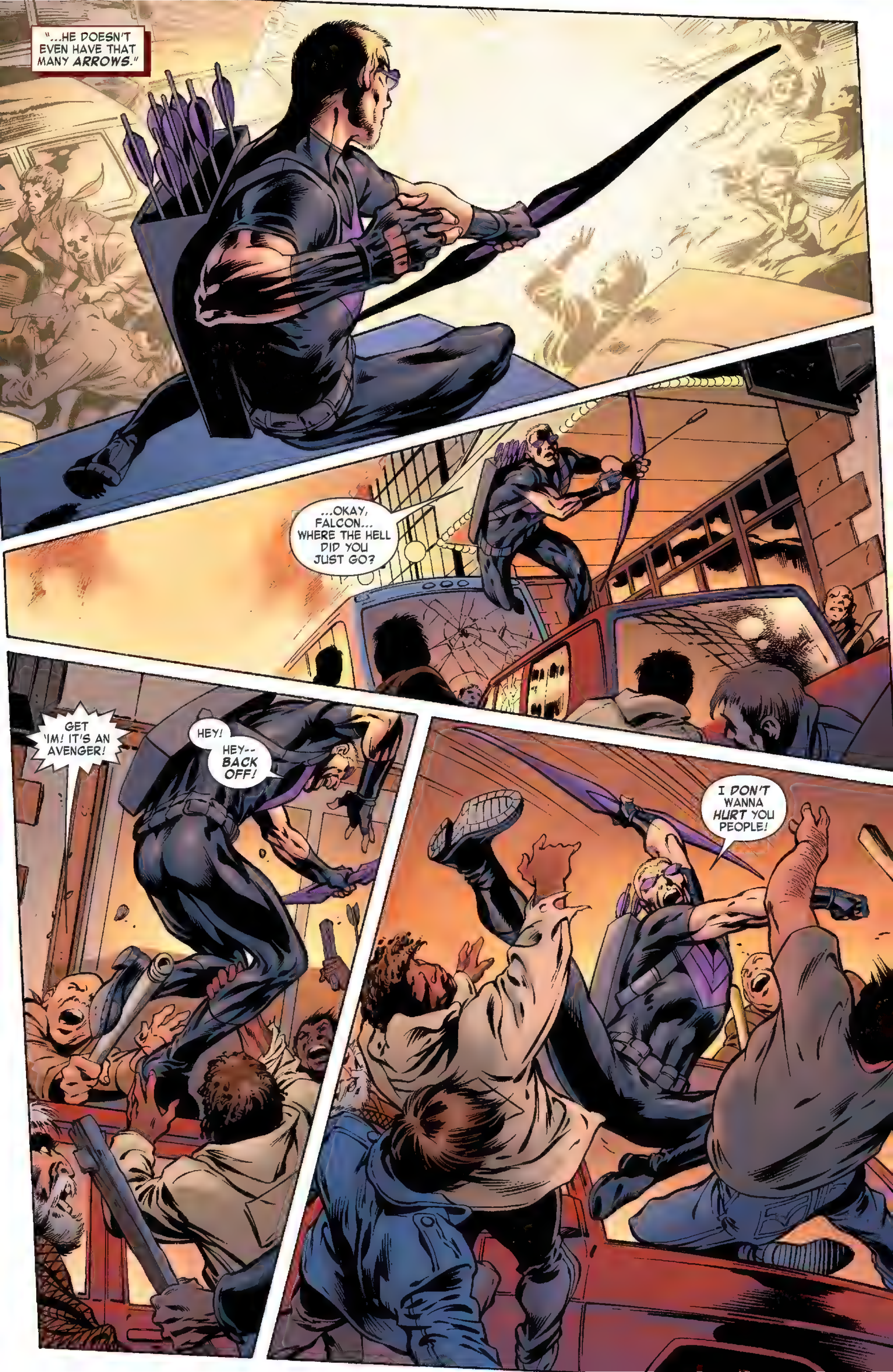

BUT WHENEVER STEVE'S ADRENALIN WAS PUMPING, THEY'D KICK IN.
HE SAID IT WAS LIKE THEY PUT A WALL BETWEEN HIM AND HIS STRENGTH.
THAT'S PRETTY BRILLIANT...I MEAN, IN AN UTTERLY EVIL WAY.
EXCEPT WE DON'T KNOW IT'S TRUE. IT'S NOT AS IF MACHINESMITH CAN BE TRUSTED.
NO, IT'S TRUE...I MADE A DEAL WITH HIM.
YOU DID WHAT?!
IT'S OKAY. TRUST ME.
WHAT DEAL?!
WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT LATER.
SO, TONY...YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?
I'M ALREADY DOING IT, SHARON...
AND YOU MIGHT WANT TO STAND BACK.
THIS WILL DISINTEGRATE ANY NANOTECH NO MATTER HOW HARD THEY TRY TO HIDE.

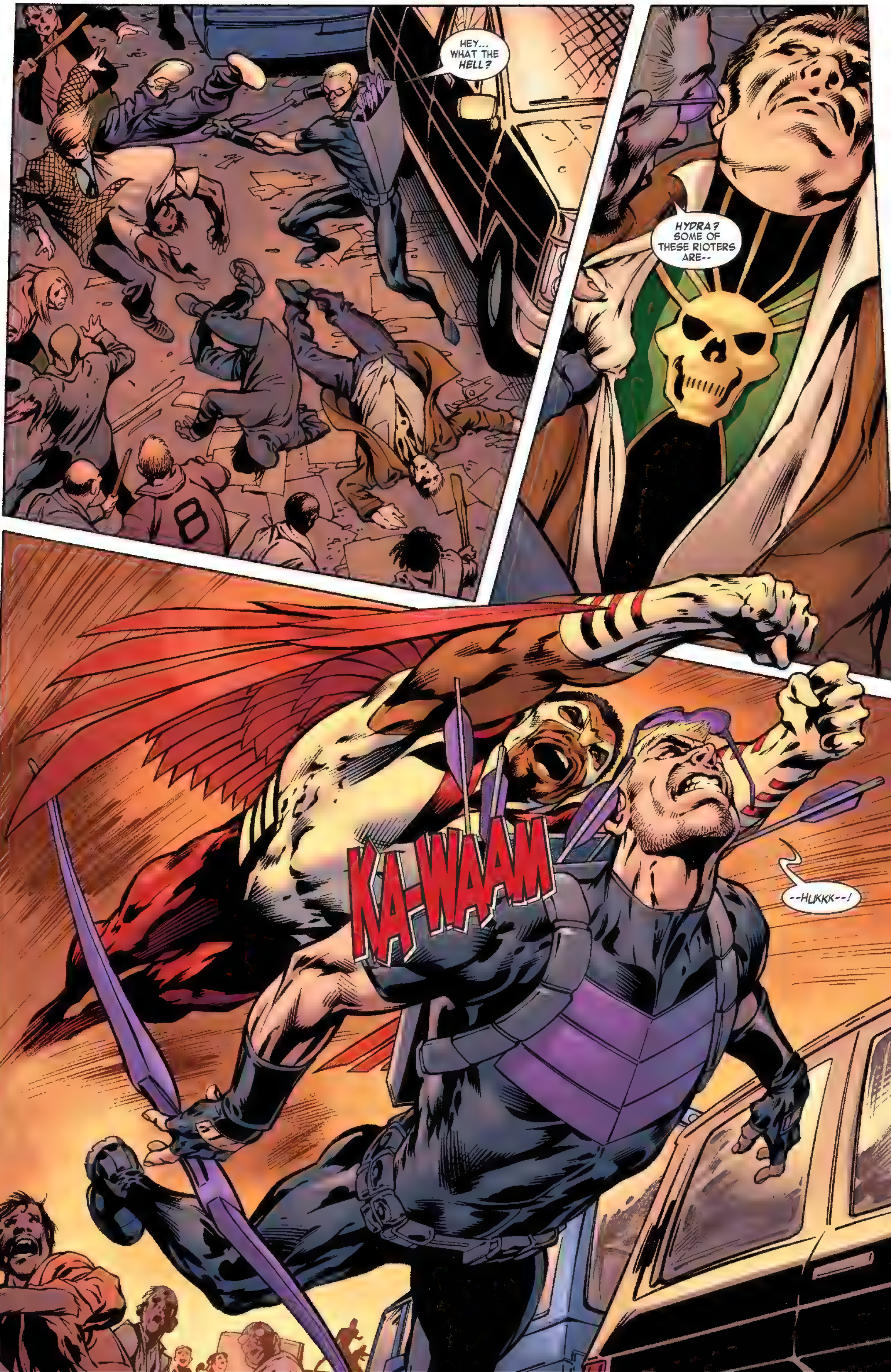

SO WE SHOULD HAVE *OUR* STEVE BACK IN...
GAAAH...
...AAAAHHHH!
...NO TIME.

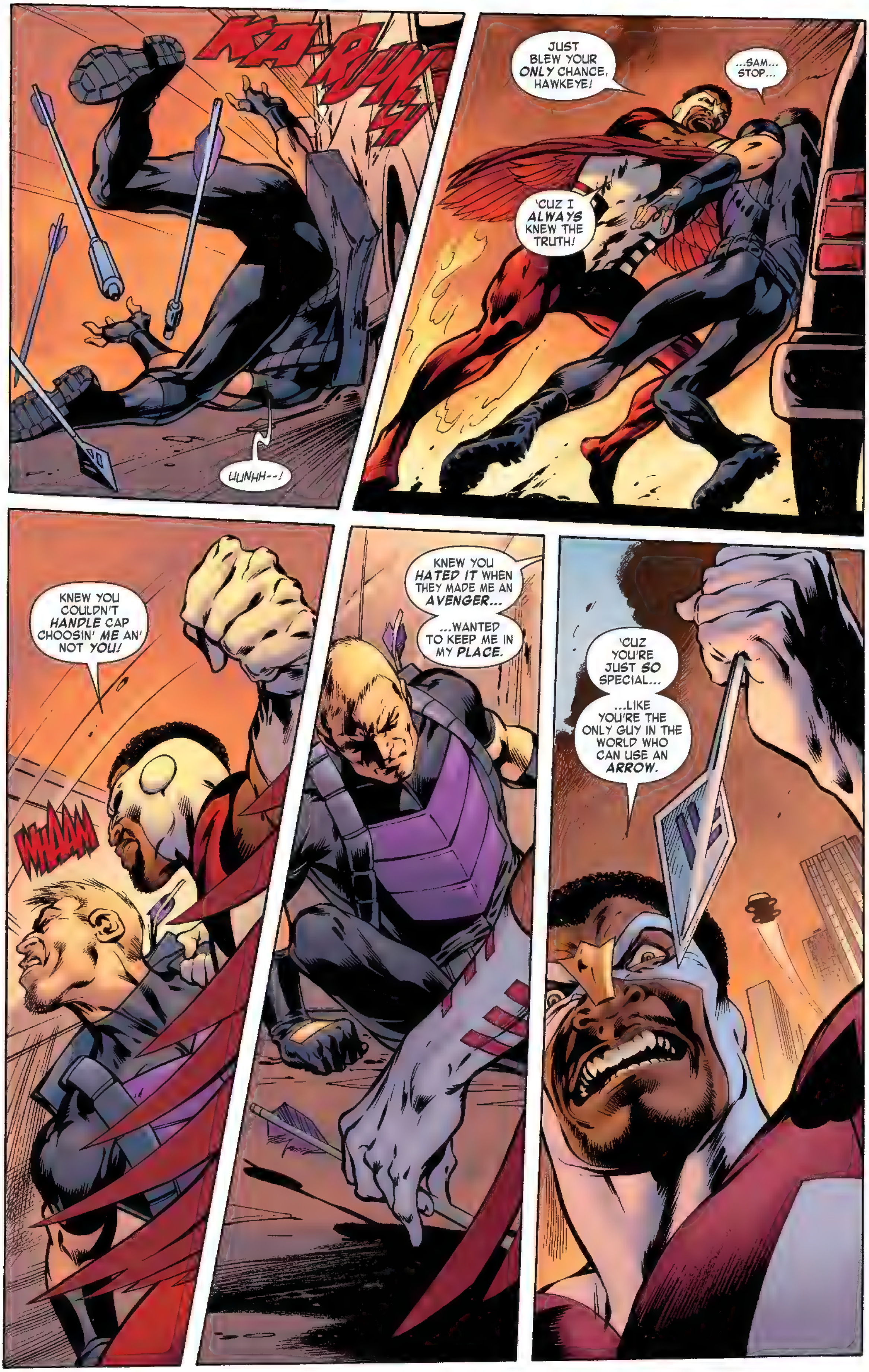

LET'S GO.
WHERE?
TO FIND BRAVO AND HIS HYDRA QUEEN.
THEY WANTED TO GET IN MY HEAD...
...MAKE ME THINK I WAS LOSING FAITH... LOSING MYSELF...
IT'S TIME TO BRING THIS WAR TO THEM...
WAIT-- HOLD ON-- HAWKEYE'S REPORTING IN...
OH, GOD... TONY, PUT UP THE LOCAL NEWS, NOW.
WHAT IS IT?
I'M AFRAID WE'VE GOT ANOTHER PROBLEM.

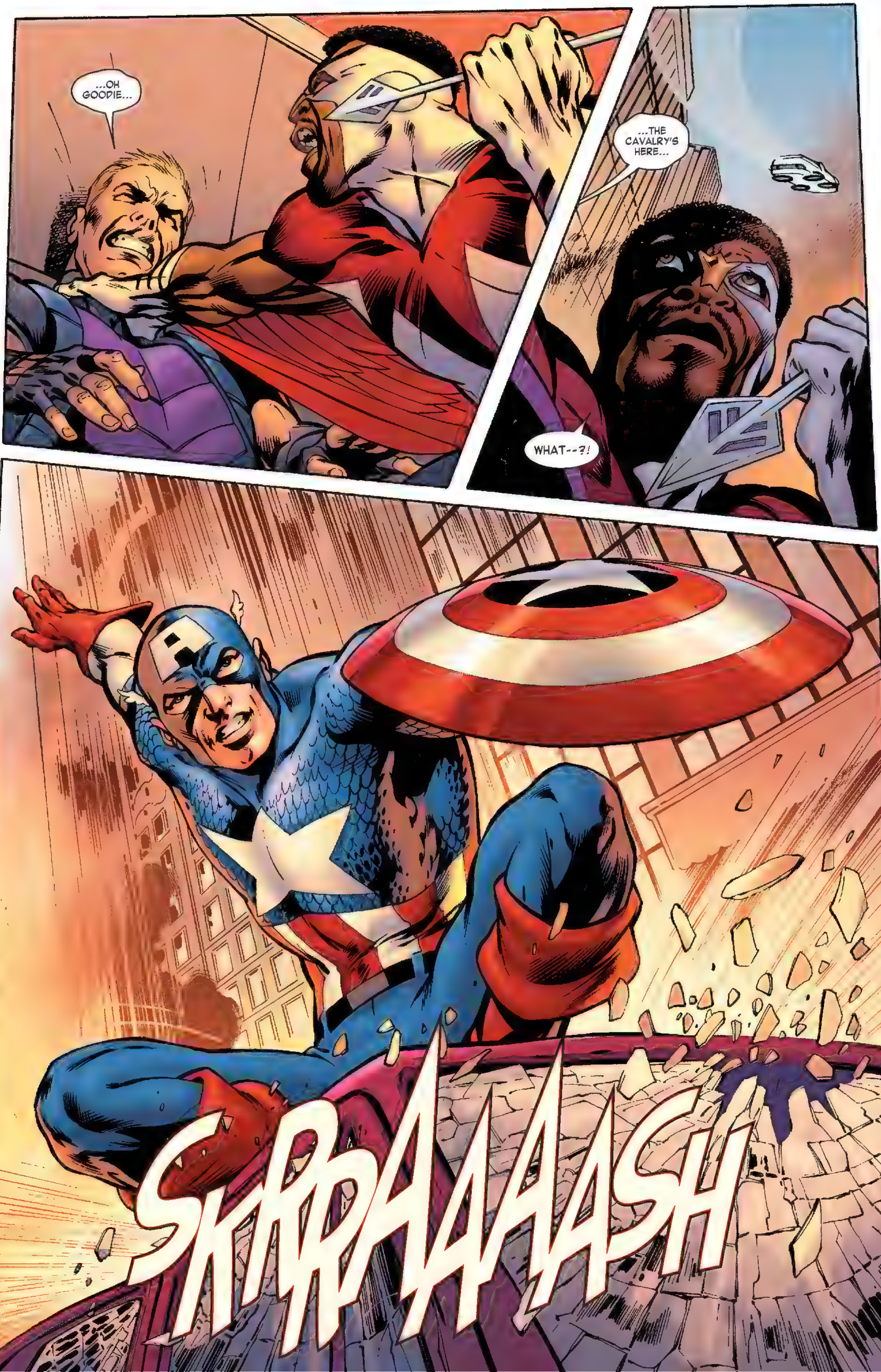

YOU THINK *THEY* EVEN KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE?! NO WAY!
NOT EVEN *CAPTAIN AMERICA* KNOWS!
WE ALL BEEN GETTIN' SHAFTED BY *THE MAN* OUR WHOLE LIVES!
NOW IT'S TIME FOR *US* TO BRING THE HURT!
SHOW 'EM HOW IT FEELS TO HAVE *NOTHIN'!*
TO *BE* NOTHIN'!

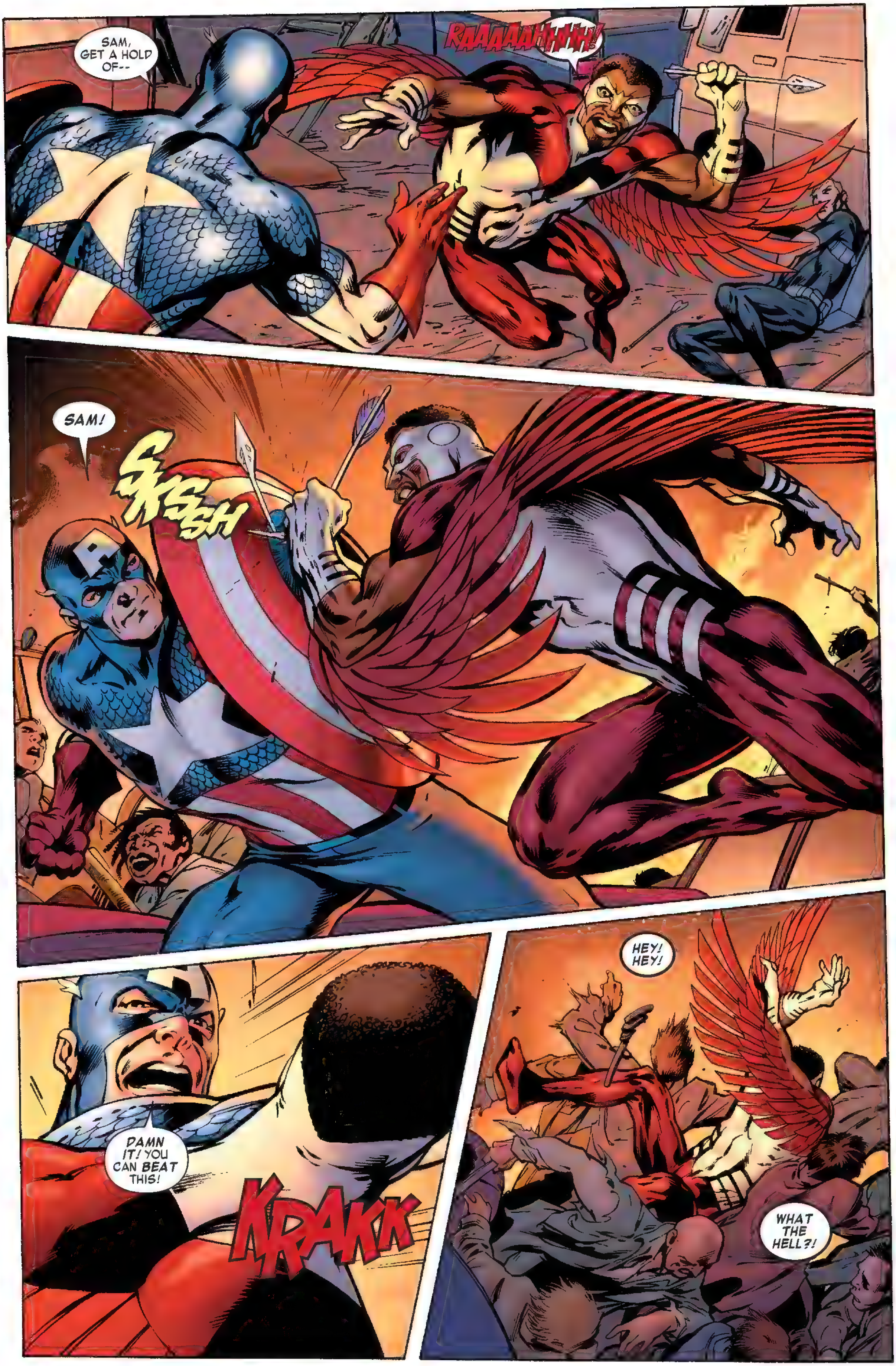

TO BE NOTHIN'!
DAMN IT... THEY GOT SAM.
WE'VE GOTTA STOP HIM...*SAVE* HIM.
YOU TWO GO...
...I'LL FOLLOW AS SOON AS I FIGURE OUT HOW TO *REVERSE* THE MADBOMB EFFECT.
YOU SHOULD'VE WORKED ON *THAT* INSTEAD OF WORRYING ABOUT *ME*.
YES...MY PRIORITIES ARE *ALL* SCREWED UP...
I'LL REMEMBER THAT NEXT TIME.
NOW GET OUT OF HERE...
HAWKEYE CAN'T HANDLE THAT MOB ON HIS OWN...

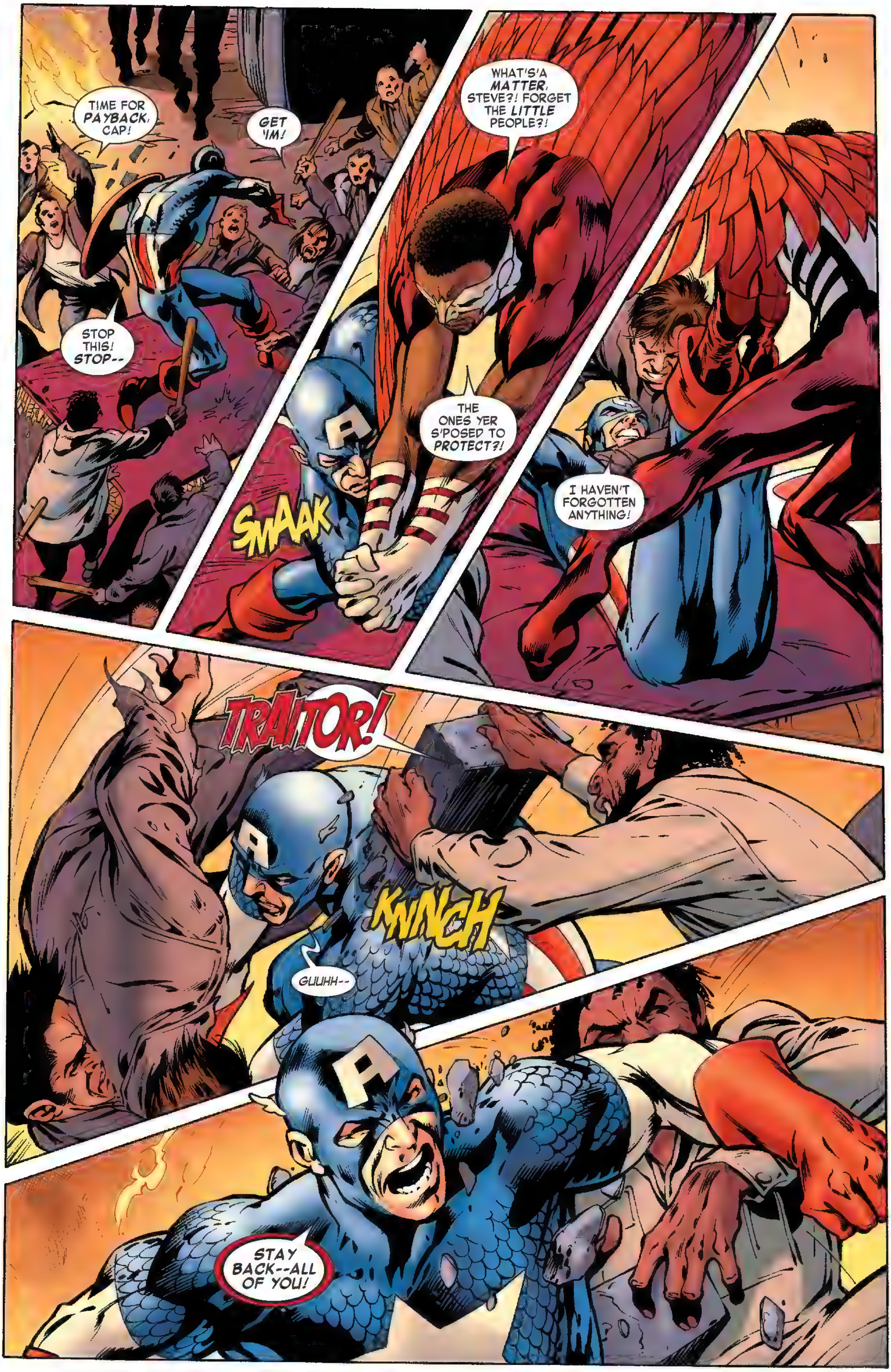

"...HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE THAT MANY *ARROWS*."
...OKAY, FALCON... WHERE THE HELL DID YOU JUST GO?
GET 'IM! IT'S AN AVENGER!
HEY!
HEY-- *BACK OFF!*
I *DON'T* WANNA *HURT* YOU PEOPLE!

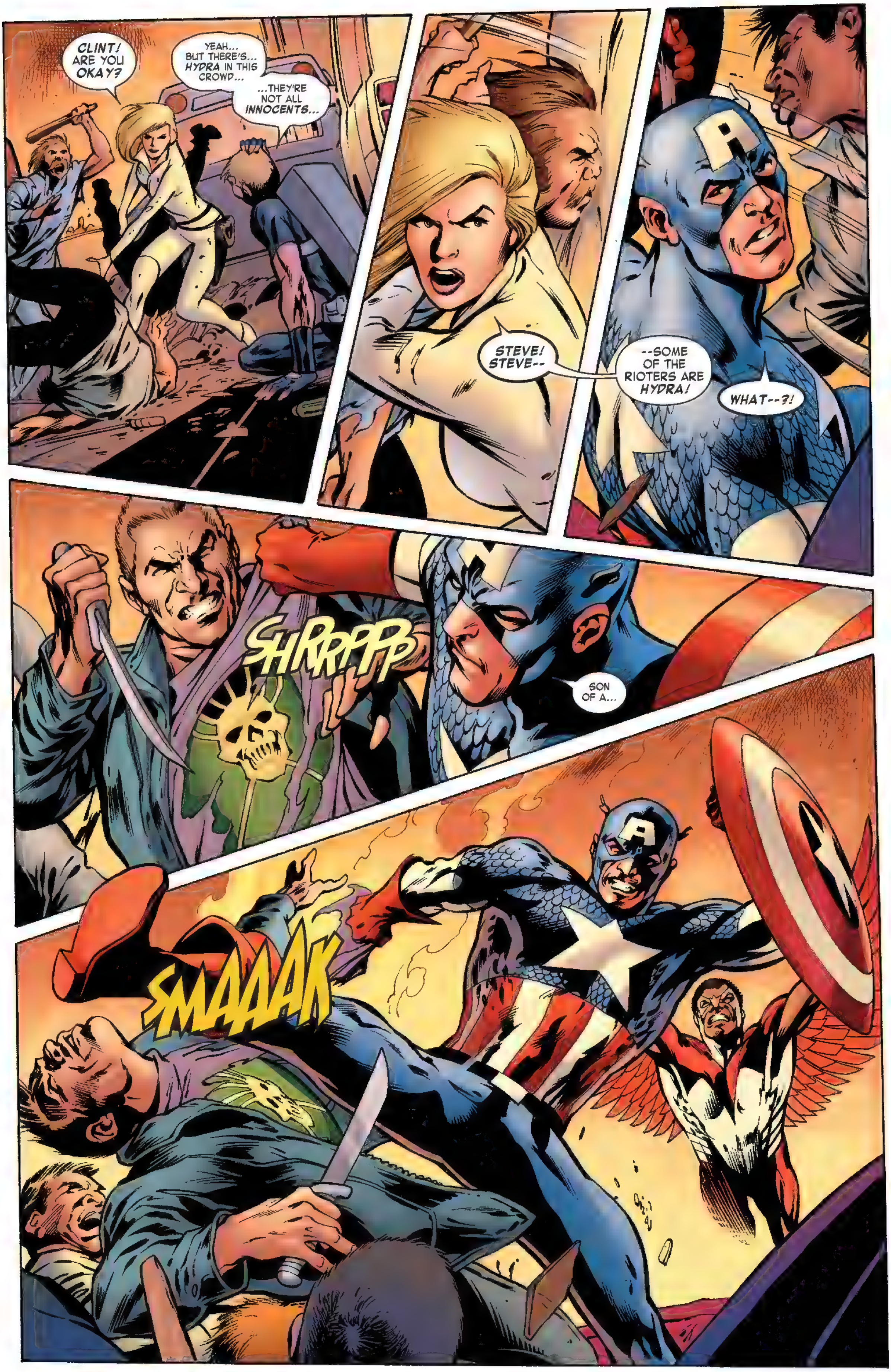

HEY... WHAT THE *HELL?*
HYDRA? SOME OF THESE RIOTERS ARE--
KA-WAAM
--HUKKK--!

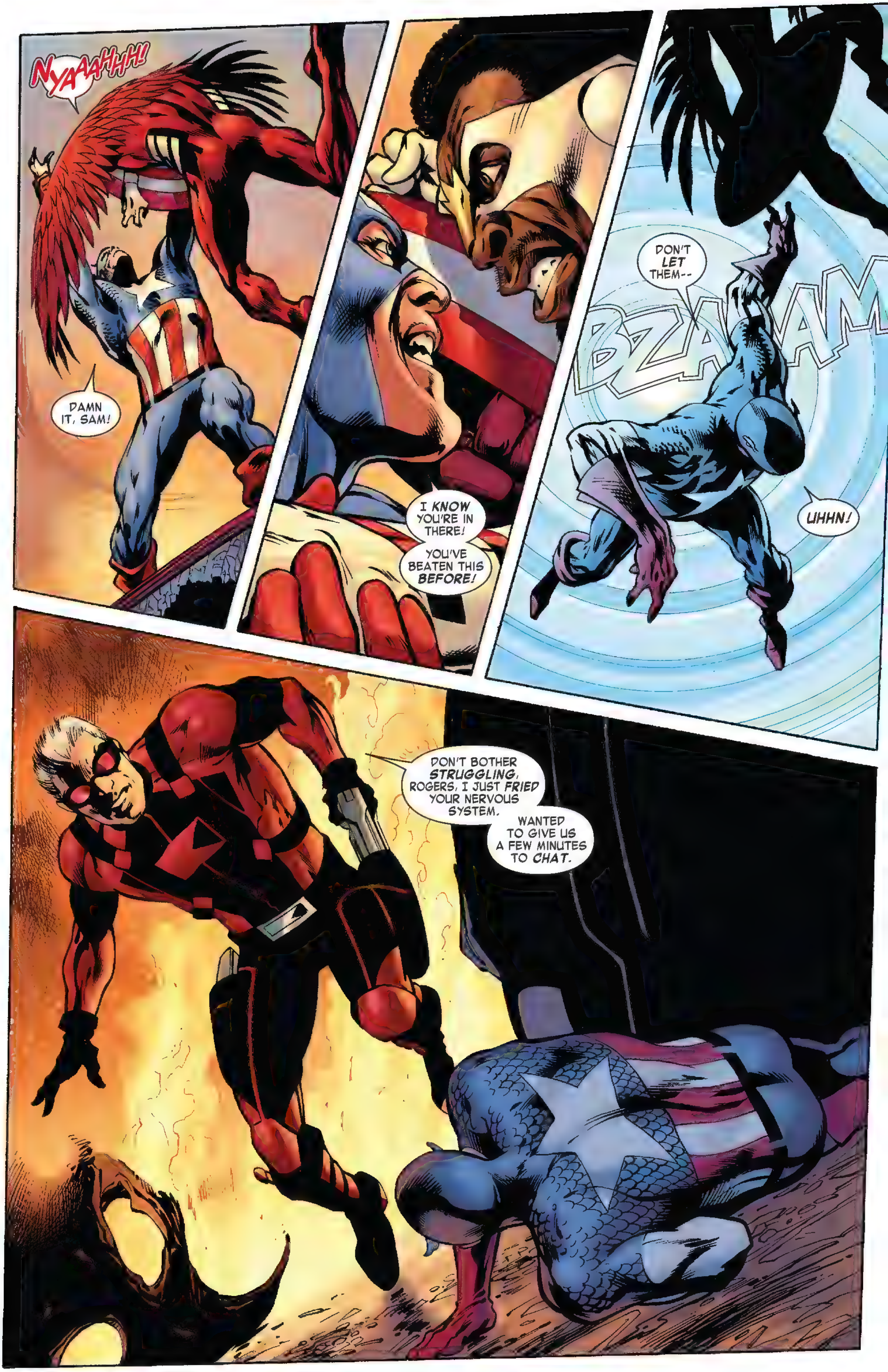

KA-RUNCH
UUNHH--!
JUST BLEW YOUR ONLY CHANCE, HAWKEYE!
...SAM... STOP...
'CUZ I ALWAYS KNEW THE TRUTH!
KNEW YOU COULDN'T HANDLE CAP CHOOSIN' ME AN' NOT YOU!
WHAAM
KNEW YOU HATED IT WHEN THEY MADE ME AN AVENGER...
...WANTED TO KEEP ME IN MY PLACE.
'CUZ YOU'RE JUST SO SPECIAL...
...LIKE YOU'RE THE ONLY GUY IN THE WORLD WHO CAN USE AN ARROW.

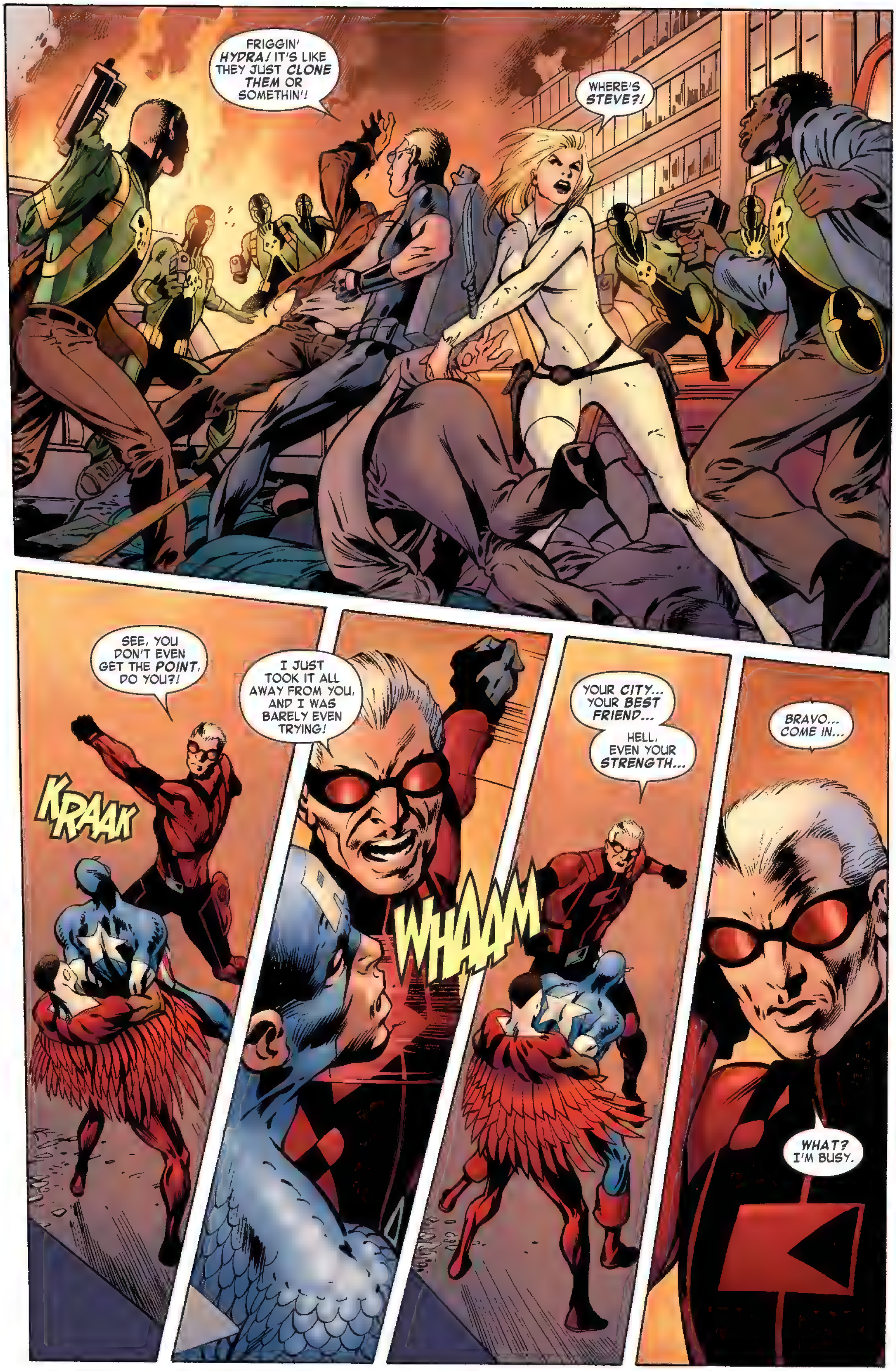

...OH GOODIE...
...THE CAVALRY'S HERE...
WHAT--?!
SKRRAAAAASH

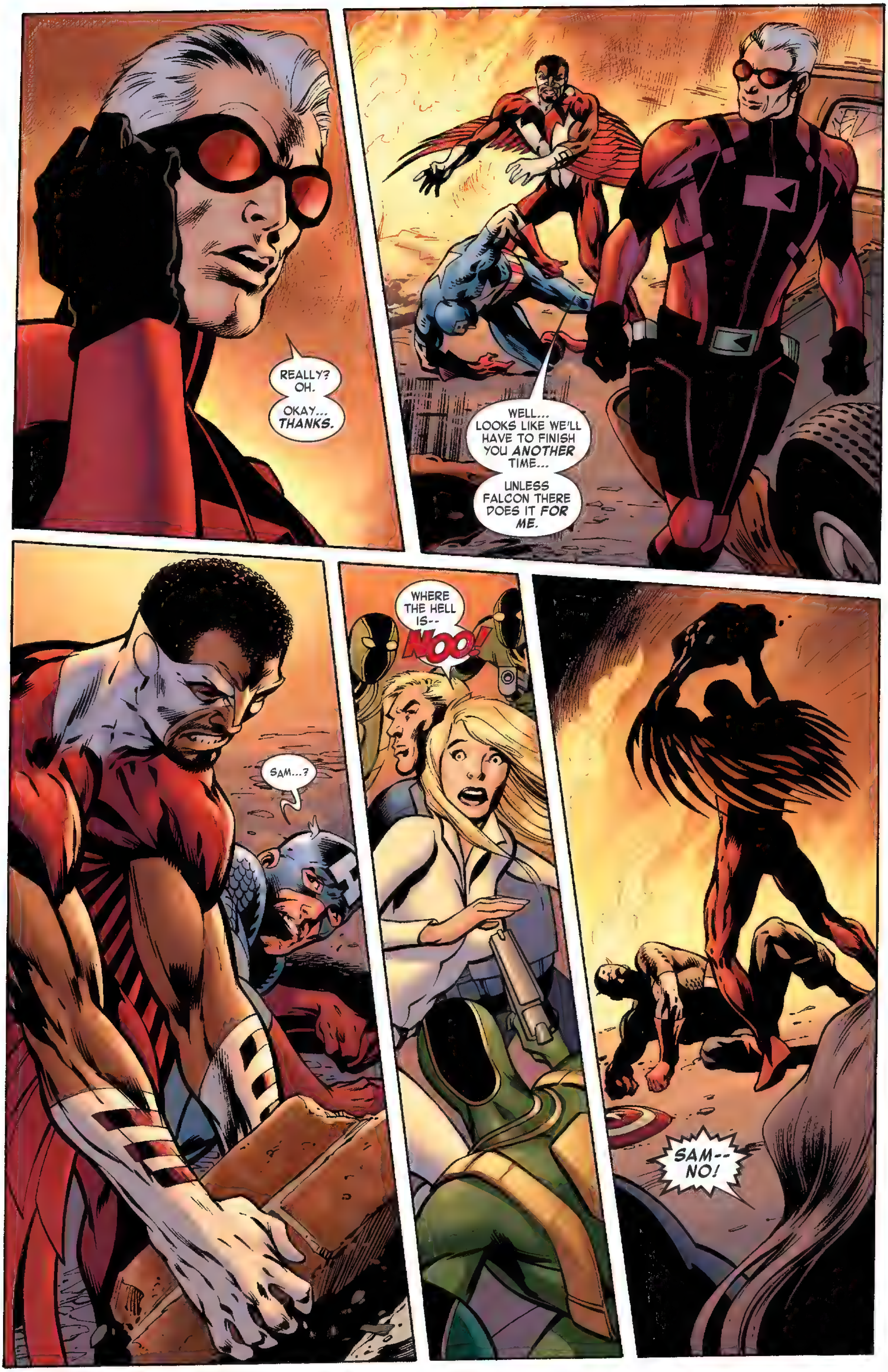

SAM, GET A HOLD OF--
RAAAAAHHHH!
SAM!
SKSSH
DAMN IT! YOU CAN BEAT THIS!
KRAKK
HEY! HEY!
WHAT THE HELL?!

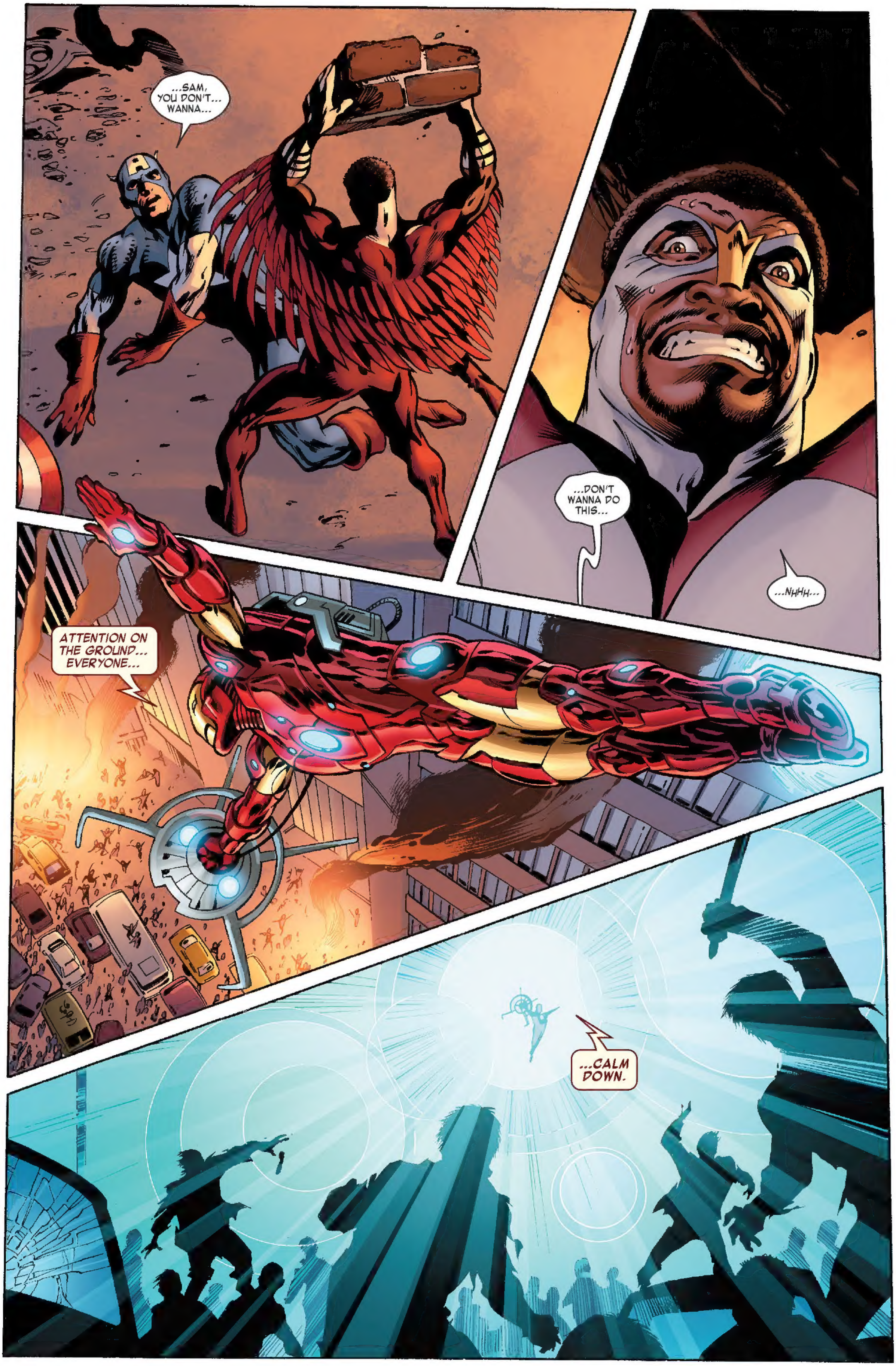

TIME FOR PAYBACK, CAP!
GET 'IM!
STOP THIS! STOP--
WHAT'S'A MATTER, STEVE?! FORGET THE LITTLE PEOPLE?!
SMAAK
THE ONES YER S'POSED TO PROTECT?!
I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ANYTHING!
TRAITOR!
KNNCH
GUUHH--
STAY BACK--ALL OF YOU!

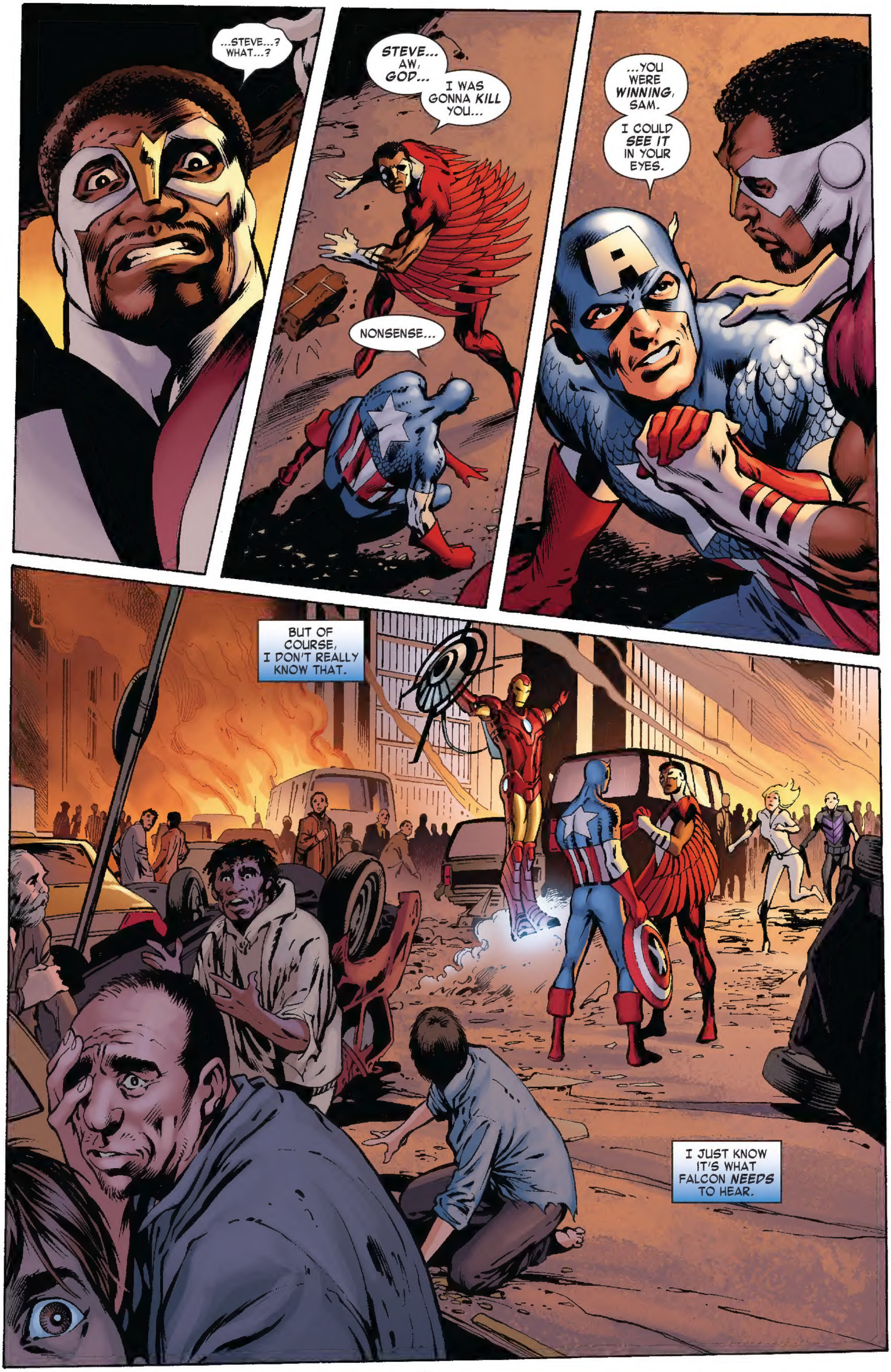

CLINT! ARE YOU OKAY?
YEAH... BUT THERE'S... HYDRA IN THIS CROWD...
...THEY'RE NOT ALL INNOCENTS...
STEVE! STEVE--
--SOME OF THE RIOTERS ARE HYDRA!
WHAT--?!
SHRRPPP
SON OF A...
SMAAAK

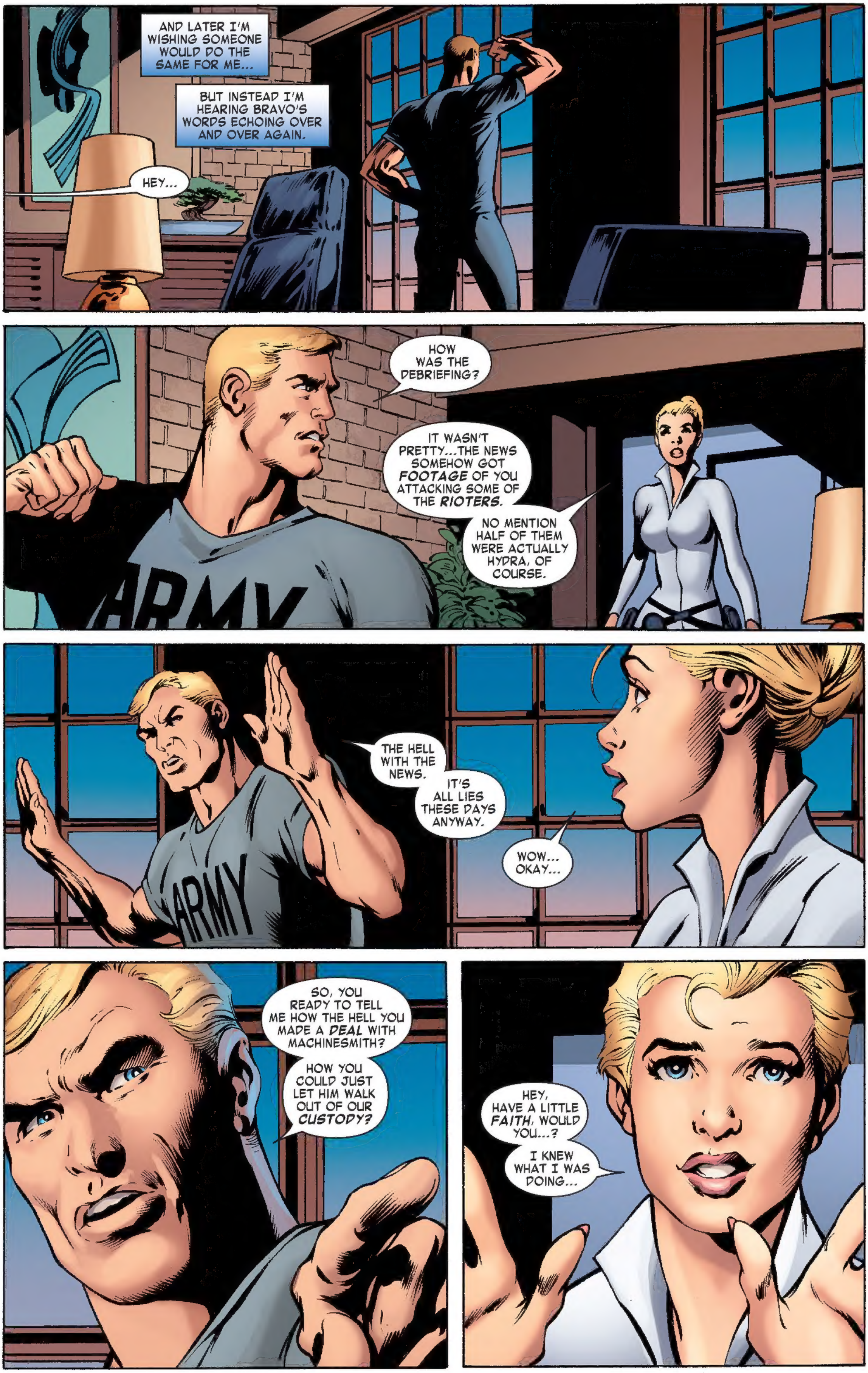

NYAAAHHH!
DAMN IT, SAM!
I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE!
YOU'VE BEATEN THIS BEFORE!
DON'T LET THEM--
BZAAAM
UHHN!
DON'T BOTHER STRUGGLING, ROGERS. I JUST FRIED YOUR NERVOUS SYSTEM.
WANTED TO GIVE US A FEW MINUTES TO CHAT.

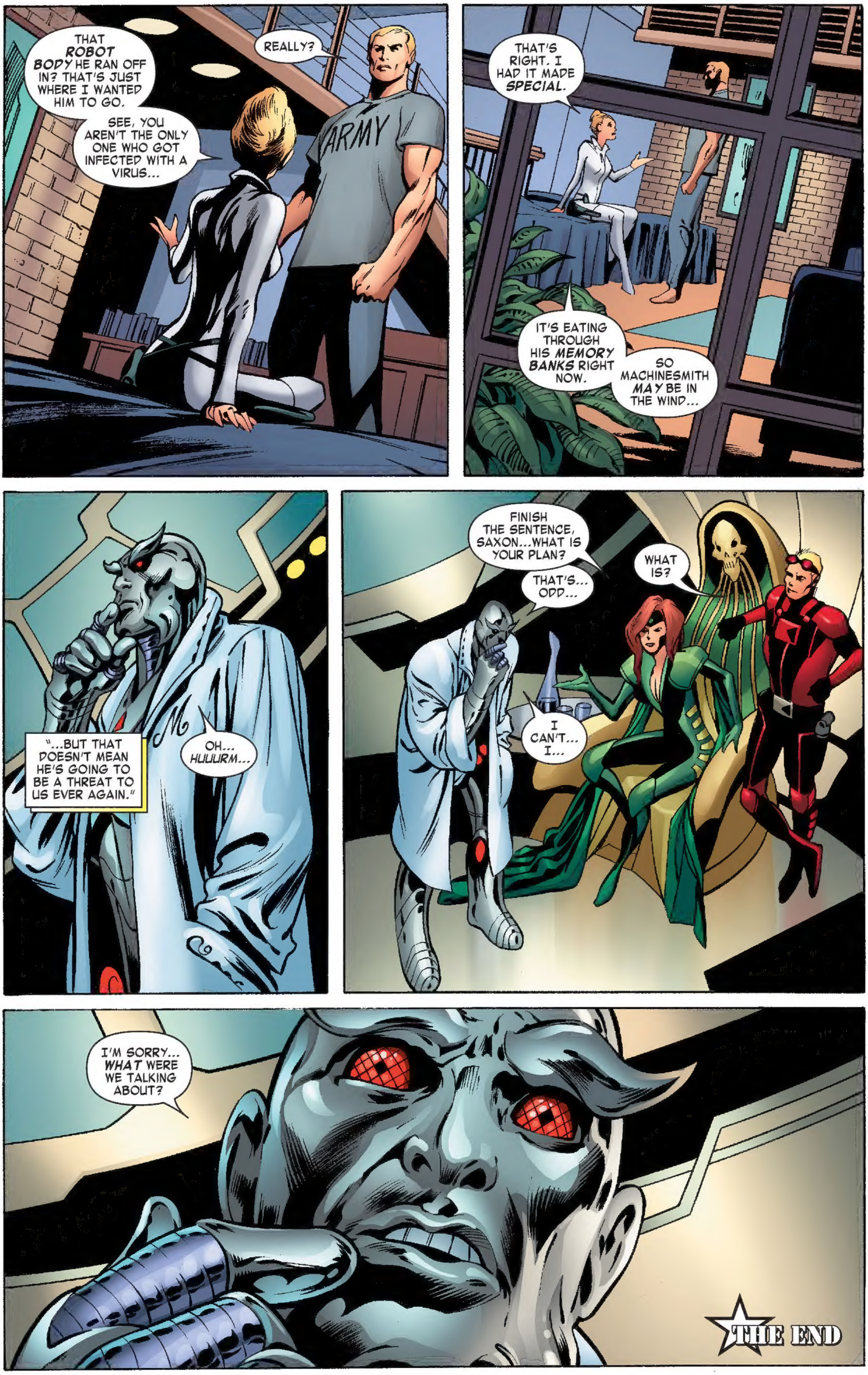

FRIGGIN' HYDRA! IT'S LIKE THEY JUST CLONE THEM OR SOMETHIN'!
WHERE'S STEVE?!
SEE, YOU DON'T EVEN GET THE POINT, DO YOU?!
KRAAK
I JUST TOOK IT ALL AWAY FROM YOU, AND I WAS BARELY EVEN TRYING!
WHAAM
YOUR CITY... YOUR BEST FRIEND...
HELL, EVEN YOUR STRENGTH...
BRAVO... COME IN...
WHAT? I'M BUSY.


REALLY? OH.
OKAY... *THANKS.*
WELL... LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO FINISH YOU *ANOTHER* TIME...
UNLESS FALCON THERE DOES IT *FOR ME.*
SAM...?
WHERE THE HELL IS--
NOO!
SAM-- NO!


...SAM, YOU DON'T... WANNA...
...DON'T WANNA DO THIS...
...NHHH...
ATTENTION ON THE GROUND... EVERYONE...
...CALM DOWN.


...STEVE...? WHAT...?
STEVE... AW, GOD...
I WAS GONNA KILL YOU...
NONSENSE...
...YOU WERE WINNING, SAM.
I COULD SEE IT IN YOUR EYES.
BUT OF COURSE, I DON'T REALLY KNOW THAT.
I JUST KNOW IT'S WHAT FALCON NEEDS TO HEAR.


AND LATER I'M WISHING SOMEONE WOULD DO THE SAME FOR ME...
BUT INSTEAD I'M HEARING BRAVO'S WORDS ECHOING OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
HEY...
HOW WAS THE DEBRIEFING?
IT WASN'T PRETTY...THE NEWS SOMEHOW GOT *FOOTAGE* OF YOU ATTACKING SOME OF THE *RIOTERS.*
NO MENTION HALF OF THEM WERE ACTUALLY HYDRA, OF COURSE.
ARMY
THE HELL WITH THE NEWS.
IT'S ALL LIES THESE DAYS ANYWAY.
WOW... OKAY...
ARMY
SO, YOU READY TO TELL ME HOW THE HELL YOU MADE A *DEAL* WITH MACHINESMITH?
HOW YOU COULD JUST LET HIM WALK OUT OF OUR *CUSTODY?*
HEY, HAVE A LITTLE *FAITH*, WOULD YOU...?
I KNEW WHAT I WAS DOING...


THAT ROBOT BODY HE RAN OFF IN? THAT'S JUST WHERE I WANTED HIM TO GO.
REALLY?
SEE, YOU AREN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO GOT INFECTED WITH A VIRUS...
ARMY
THAT'S RIGHT. I HAD IT MADE SPECIAL.
IT'S EATING THROUGH HIS MEMORY BANKS RIGHT NOW.
SO MACHINESMITH MAY BE IN THE WIND...
"...BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE'S GOING TO BE A THREAT TO US EVER AGAIN."
OH... HUUURM...
FINISH THE SENTENCE, SAXON...WHAT IS YOUR PLAN?
THAT'S... ODD...
WHAT IS?
I CAN'T... I...
I'M SORRY... WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT?
THE END